JUMP COMICS

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まつもと泉

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まつもと泉

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JUMP COMICS

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vol.2

JEALOUSY RAIN VOLUME

まつもと泉

オレンジ★ロード2 レンジ！の巻

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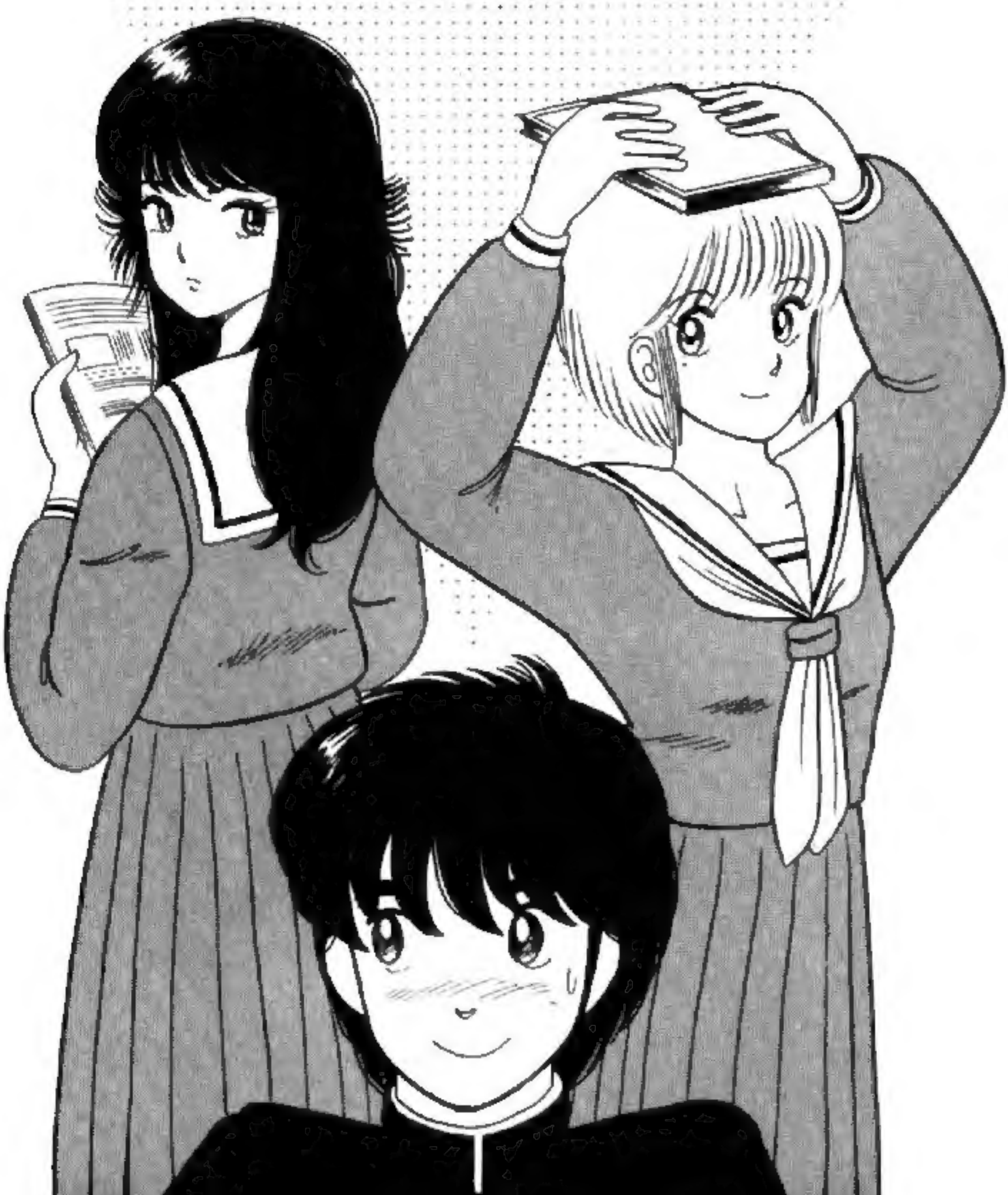
きまぐれオレンジロード

THE FIRST TEST



SO, THIS...

DURING THE ROSY DAYS OF SCHOOL, THERE IS BUT ONE ORDEAL...

LIBRARY

IT ALWAYS APPEARS SUDDENLY, AND IT DISTRESSES ME...

WAS THAT CLEAR?

...BE-COMES THIS.

HA HA HA

YOU REALLY SAVED ME.

I'M GLAD...! I WAS WORRIED ABOUT HOW I WOULD DO ON THE NEXT TEST.

WELL, AS FOR THE REST, YOU'LL BE OKAY BY YOURSELF!

THE NAME OF THAT CULPRIT IS... "EXAM"!!

OH YES.

I SEE, SEMPAI!

CLINGGG

EH!? E-EVERY DAY!?

WHY DON'T WE JUST CONTINUE TO STUDY HERE EVERY DAY UNTIL THE TEST?

OH, THAT'S RIGHT.

URKK

OH, I DON'T UNDERSTAND THIS EITHER ...

I-I DON'T MIND, BUT...

IF YOU HELP ME, I'M SURE I'LL GET A GOOD SCORE ON THE NEXT TEST...!

THUMP

BESIDES, I DON'T DISLIKE STUDYING.

AND WHEN I'M TUTORED BY YOU, I REALLY UNDERSTAND IT WELL...

PEEK

STAAAAAAAARE

J-JUST A MINUTE, HIKARU-CHAN!

HIKARU-CHAN SAID THERE WAS A PROBLEM SHE DIDN'T UNDERSTAND, SO I ENDED UP GOING WITH HER TO THE LIBRARY ...

ALL RIGHT, DARLING!!

LET'S DO OUR BEST, OKAY?!!

THE FUTURE DOESN'T LOOK GOOD ...!

SORRY ...

SFX: <GLOM!>

UMM...

BUT HIKARU-CHAN, IT'S SURPRISING YOU WERE SO EAGER TO STUDY LIKE THIS...

ULP

OHH!? I SEE ...

EH?!

IF POSSIBLE, I'D LIKE TO KEEP THE FACT THAT WE'RE STUDYING HERE A SECRET FROM MADOKA-SAN.

...HOW STRANGE. USUALLY, SHE'D GO AND TELL AYUKAWA FIRST.

UH...!

UM, I-I MEAN ...

I DON'T MUCH WANT AYUKAWA TO KNOW ABOUT SOMETHING LIKE THIS...

CONSIDERING THAT I HATE TO STUDY, I'D BE EMBARRASSED NOW TO SAY THAT THE LIBRARY IS A NICE PLACE.

SMILE

SMILE

TAP

YEAH, I SEE.

THEN IT'LL JUST BE OUR SECRET!

WELL, THAT SEEMS BOGUS BUT THAT'S OKAY!

!

I'M PRETTY SURE THAT AYUKAWA IS SUPPOSED TO BE WORKING TODAY.

BG

WHAT'S SHE LOOKING AT?

HIYA!

AH, WEL-COME!

EVEN ME ...? YOU DON'T HAVE TO SAY THAT.

REALLY? EVEN YOU'RE STUDYING FOR THE TEST?

TEXT-BOOK!?

WHAT?

11 NOTE: IF YOU'VE ALREADY SEEN THE TV SERIES THIS MIGHT SOUND ABSURD, BUT YOU MUST REMEMBER THAT THIS IS EARLY IN THE MANGA SERIES. KYOUSUKE STILL SORTA THINKS OF MADOKA AS A DELINQUENT AND HASN'T YET DISCOVERED SHE HAS THE BRAINS TO MATCH HER LOOKS...

...IN A PLACE LIKE THIS?

SHOULD YOU BE GOOFING OFF?

HMMM. EVEN HIKARU-CHAN AND AYUKAWA GET PRETTY SERIOUS WHEN IT COMES TO TESTS.

BUT THE TESTS HERE ARE VERY DIFFICULT!

KASUGA-KUN, YOU ONLY RECENTLY TRANSFERRED TO OUR SCHOOL SO YOU PROB-ABLY DON'T KNOW THIS,

HUH? YOU SEEM SO RELAXED.

OH, COME ON... **YOU MEAN** SHOULD I **STILL BE** GOOFING OFF.

THAT'S STILL ONE OF THE EASIER ONES!

D-DID YOU REALLY SOLVE THIS ONE, AYUKAWA?

S-SUCH DIFFICULT PROBLEMS !!

EH...!?

LET ME SEE THAT. THOUGH I MIGHT NOT LOOK IT, I WAS ACTUALLY IN THE LOWER-UPPER LEVEL AT MY LAST SCHOOL.

FLIP

Math

SHOULDN'T JUDGE A PERSON BY HER LOOKS!

SO THIS TURNS INTO THIS AND BECOMES THIS.

OKAY?

Y-YEAH...

BUT THE WAY AYUKAWA LOOKS NOW IS VERY MUCH TO MY LIKING.

EASI... ER!?

YOU BETTER NOT UN-DEREST!-MATE OUR TESTS.

SEE? I TOLD YOU SO.

THEN WHY DON'T WE STUDY TOGETHER FOR THE TEST?

LOWER-UPPER LEVEL...

YOU'RE WORRYING ME... YOU'RE UPPER-MIDDLE LEVEL, RIGHT?

EH?

GIVEN UP...!?

HIKARU-CHAN...!?

THIS ALWAYS HAPPENS.

USUALLY, I HELP HIKARU WITH HER STUDYING...

BUT SHE TOLD ME THAT SHE'S SORT OF GIVEN UP ON THE NEXT TEST...

SEE YA.

SO BE HERE TOMORROW, RIGHT AROUND NOW. IT'S A PRETTY SLOW TIME!

BUT IF I CAN PULL OFF A DECEPTION BY BEING IN TWO PLACES AT THE SAME TIME I'LL BE DOUBLY BLESSED AND I'LL HAVE FUN WHILE STUDYING FOR THE TEST...

YEAH, 5 O'CLOCK THEN.

I WAS TRICKED!!

BESIDES, I DON'T DISLIKE STUDYING.

STUDYING WASN'T HER AIM!!

SO THIS TURNS INTO THIS AND BECOMES THIS.

OKAY?

...I UNDERSTAND THE FIRST-YEAR STUFF...!

ALTHOUGH I'M BEING COACHED BY AYUKAWA. .

SMILE SMILE

IT'S NOT THAT BIG A DEAL ...!

AMAZING, SEMPAI! YOU'RE GOOD AT STUDYING, HUH!!?

I'M STUDYING WITH AYUKAWA FROM 5:00 TILL ABOUT 6:00!

FWIPP

THE LIBRARY CLOSES EXACTLY AT 5 O'CLOCK!

BYE. SEE YOU TOMORROW ...

IN ORDER TO REDUCE THE TIME LOST BY EVEN A LITTLE BIT, I'VE NO CHOICE BUT TO USE THE POWER!!

SWISH

NO ONE'S LOOKING ...

EVEN IF I HURRY IT TAKES 20 MINUTES TO GET FROM THE LIBRARY TO ABCB, SO...

WHEW!

YIKES!

CLICK

YOU MUST BE VERY TIRED.

WHAT'S WRONG?

AH... SORRY.

KASUGA-KUN. KASUGA-KUN!

LATELY, I'VE BEEN UP READ-ING ALL NIGHT LONG.

AH, I MEAN, I BORROWED A BOOK FROM THE LIBRARY...

LIBRARY?

UH-HMM, THE LIBRARY ...

ARE YOU DOING SOMETHING REALLY TIRING, BEFORE YOU COME HERE?

I'M USING IT EVERY TIME I COME HERE...

BUT... WHEN I'M BUSY DOING THAT TELEPORTING, I GET EXTREMELY TIRED...!

I'LL POUR YOU SOME COFFEE.

AH, THANKS.

CAREFUL, CAREFUL!

THUMP

THIS?

WHICH ONE DON'T YOU UN-DERSTAND?

OO-OOH ...!

I'D LIKE TO SMELL THIS SCENT FOR-EVER...

I WONDER IF SHE'S WEARING PERFUME?

I THINK I'M GETTING DIZZY...

H-HUH!

...BUT THIS IS SOMEHOW MORE SENSUAL...

COME TO THINK OF IT, WHEN I CHEEK-DANCED WITH HIKARU-CHAN, THERE WAS A SWEET, SUGAR-CANDY-LIKE SCENT, TOO...

AYUKAWA'S FRAGRANCE SHOULD BE A CRIMINAL OFFENSE!!

N-NOTHING ...!

ARE YOU WEARING PERFUME OR SOME-THING?

NOTHING REALLY.

Y-YOU SURPRISED ME... WHAT IS IT!?

AH... N-NO...

A-AT A TIME LIKE THIS ...!!

H-HEY!

WE DID IT! IT'S OVER!

AFTER THIS, BEGINNING TOMORROW, IT'S TEST TIME.

IT'S FINALLY DONE!

THAT'S IT!

LIBRARY

HEY, LET ME TREAT YOU,

SINCE YOU HELPED ME WITH MY STUDY-ING.

EH!!

THUMP

WHY DON'T WE HAVE COFFEE OR SOMETHING AT ABCB?

WELLLL THEN, NOW I'LL...

E-EVEN WORSE!

I GUESS I'LL GO THERE BY MYSELF.

CAN'T BE HELPED.

IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE I'VE SEEN MADOKA-SAN AND I WANNA SEE HER...

OH SEMPAI, YOUR BUSY?

WH-WHY DON'T WE GO TO-MORROW? IT'LL BE MY TREAT.

NO, NOT TODAY, UHH ...

TH-THAT'S AWFUL. WE'LL BE TO-GETHER WITH AYUKAWA THERE ...

I-INSTEAD OF THAT,

WHY DON'T WE GO SEE A MOVIE TO REFRESH US?

THERE AREN'T ANY IN-TERESTING ONES PLAYING RIGHT NOW.

HOW CRUEL!! YOU THINK MADOKA-SAN IS BETTER THAN ME.

I-I'M IN TROUBLE... IF AYUKAWA AND HIKARU-CHAN MEET THERE NOW, MY LIFE WILL COMPLETELY GO TO PIECES...

YOU LIAR! YOU'RE STUDYING JUST FINE, WITH HIKARU!

IT'S OKAY, IT'S OKAY. I'LL TREAT.

THEN ...

THE CHEESECAKE AT ABCB IS DELICIOUS.

OKAY, THEN LET'S GO HAVE SOME CAKE OR SOMETHING ...

ARRRGH. IF IT'S LIKE THIS.

I CAN'T VERY WELL HAVE THOSE TWO MEET NOW!!

THAT'S TOO BAD.

HEY, SEMPAI. IT WON'T OPEN...!

IT'S LOCKED FROM THE OUTSIDE.

HUH? IT DOESN'T OPEN.

RATTLE RATTLE

OH. THEN WE CAN'T GO TO ABCB.

WHAT'LL WE DO? IT'S THE ONLY EXIT HERE.

I DON'T WANT TO GO!!

C'MON, LET'S GO, SEMPAI!!

WELL, THE BOTH OF YOU, GO HOME ALREADY!

THAT'S ODD. I CAME TO LOCK UP BUT IT'S ALREADY LOCKED ...

CLACK

CLANG CLANG
CLANG CLANG

7"
7"
7"

SMILE

MOST LIKELY THERE WAS AN ACCIDENT OR SOMETHING.

TIME FOR "PLAN B"

IT'S STRANGE, HUH? EVEN THOUGH THE TRAIN WENT BY THE GATE STILL HASN'T OPENED.

SFX: <BLA-BLAAAT>

EH? YOU AREN'T GOING!?

IT CAN'T BE HELPED!

STAGGER

OH, IT WENT UP.

EXCUSE ME.

LET'S JUST GO FROM THAT RAIL-ROAD CROSS-ING.

BUT WHETHER I WANT TO GO OR NOT, WE'RE ALREADY IN FRONT OF THE PLACE.

THIS LATE IN THE DAY AND YOU HAVE SHADOWS UNDER YOUR EYES.

WHAT'S THE MATTER? YOU LOOK TIRED...

H-HEY, ARE YOU SURE YOU WANT TO GO?

WH-WHEN I USE THIS MUCH POWER, I CERTAINLY GET TIRED!

I-IS THAT SO?

I-I WONDER IF I SHOULD RUN AWAY ...

LONG TIME NO SEE!

WELCOME ...

PEEK

WORKING HARD?

NO, NOT SO BAD. OH, STAY AS LONG AS YOU LIKE.

WHAT CAN I GET YOU?

SFX. <PLONK!>

CHEESECAKE AND AMERICAN COFFEE FOR ME.

AYUKAWA!!

O-OH NO!

HIKARU, WAS IT REALLY OKAY NOT TO HELP [illegible] STUDYING?

CRASH

I PRAY WE DON'T START TALKING ABOUT THE TEST...!!

JUST A MINUTE...

C-C-COULD I HAVE A MENU ...?

WHAT!?

TAP

HERE YOU GO.

MENU

MENU

TH-THANK YOU. ....

YOU'RE WELCOME!

BUT I... DESPISE MYSELF SOMEWHAT.

THANK YOU, AYUKAWA... I'M EXTREMELY GRATEFUL!

AHH, BUSY, BUSY.

WORK IS HARD, HUH!?

SORRY, HIKARU. MAYBE NEXT TIME WE CAN TALK.

IN THE END, ON THE NIGHT OF THE MOST IMPORTANT DAY OF I DIDN'T STUDY AT ALL BECAUSE I HAD USED THE POWER TOO MUCH...

BUT STILL, WHAT DO YOU SUPPOSE WAS INSIDE THAT MENU?

AYUKAWA... SHE'S GOT SOME GOOD POINTS, TOO ...!

You might look bad as a man if Hikaru finds out that I've been coaching you, so I'll keep that a secret. I've written down in this note the points we were going to cover today. This is the last study session. Good luck.
From Madoka-sensei

School

<Classroom> 3-A

Ayukawa Madoka

255 Komatsu Seiji
256 Kasuga Kyousuke
257 Hatta Kazuya
Out of 257 people.

LATER ON, AS EXPECTED, DIVINE RETRIBUTION WAS DEALT OUT!

COMRADE...

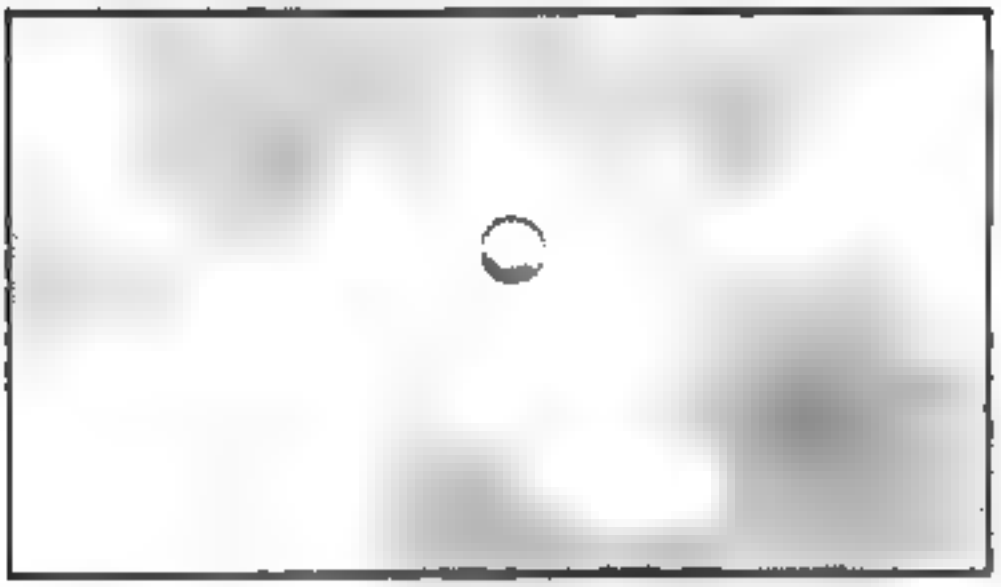
BUT THE REAL WORLD IS NOT SO GENEROUS AS TO LET ME OFF THE HOOK THIS EASILY.

カ

SFX: <CLAAANG>

End of Chapter 009

SHOPPING BOOGIE



PLOP

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SORRY!

SMILE

THANKS, BIG SISTER!

I NEVER USED TO DO THIS SORT OF THING BEFORE ...

I'VE BEEN CHEERFUL LATELY!

WAITED LONG?

EH!? S-SOMETHING ...

HMM... STARE

ACTUALLY, I ARRIVED 30 MINUTES AGO...

N-NO. I JUST GOT HERE.

OH

ACTUALLY, YESTERDAY ...

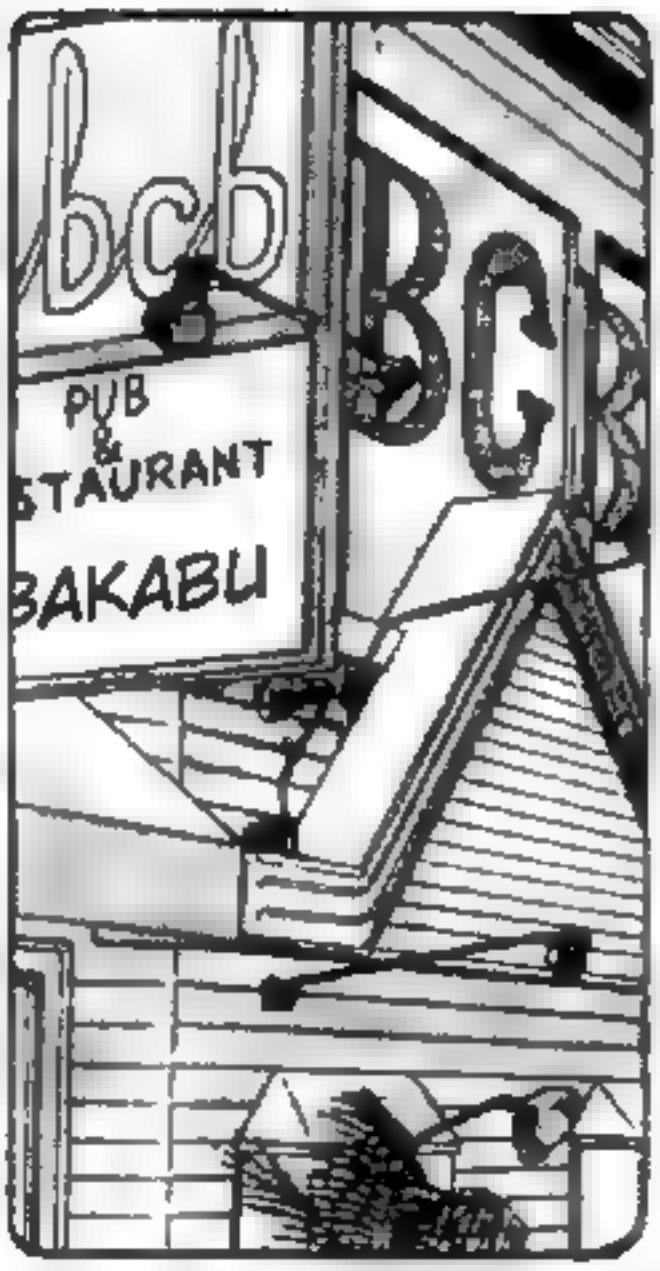
M-MAYBE I SHOULD HAVE WORN MY REGULAR CLOTHES AFTER ALL.

BUT... THAT'S OKAY!

I-IS THAT SO?

PRETTY FLASHY, HUH?

Edited by ZbeH, from #mangascans on Dalnet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&
STAURANT
BAKABU

HELLO!

MASTERRRR !!
DAAAAA!?
KYOUSUKE-KUN, I HEAR THAT AYUKAWA-KUN WANTS TO GO TOMORROW ON A DATE WITH YOU TO-MORROW.

HOW'S THAT SOUND, IF I MIGHT ASK!?

AND I HAVE TO BE HERE. SO WE WERE JUST SAYING THAT IT WOULD BE NICE TO GET A GUY TO LEND A HAND FOR THIS!
BUT IT SEEMS THAT THE DEPARTMENT STORE WOULD TAKE A WEEK TO HAVE THE THINGS DELIVERED ...

I'M SENDING AYUKAWA-KUN SHOPPING TO-MORROW TO BUY THE LITTLE THINGS WE USE HERE IN THE RESTAURANT ...
JUST JOKING.

LET ME MAKE IT CLEAR THAT, WE WON'T BE GOING FOR FUN!

OH, THANK YOU! IT'S BECAUSE YOU'RE A GUY. WELL, HAVE A GLASS OF COLD SAKE. NO... HA HA HA.

I'LL BE FINE BY MYSELF! I'LL GO!

THEN, THIS ONE, AND... OH, AND THAT, TOO... YES. VERY WELL, MISS!

HERE YOU GO! PLEASE TAKE THIS.

AYUKAWA'S SO RELIABLE. WHEN SHE'S LIKE THIS NO ONE WOULD EVER BELIEVE WE'RE BOTH IN JUNIOR HIGH.

Y-YOU'RE MISTAKEN! I-I'M...!!

CLATTER

KAA

HOW ADMIRABLE... HELPING YOUR BIG SISTER TODAY?

SFX. <STIFLED LAUGHTER>

HEH!

PULL YOURSELF TOGETHER, KYOUSUKE-CHAN!

TEE-HEE.

AHHHHH!

SH-SHIT! IF IT'S GOING TO BE LIKE THIS, I SHOULDN'T HAVE COME!

W-WELL... BUT ON THE OTHER HAND, ISN'T THAT YOUR CHARM?

IN OTHER WORDS, YOU'D LIKE TO SAY THAT I'M A BRAT..!

YOU'RE STILL BOTHERED BY WHAT THE SALESCLERK SAID A WHILE BACK, AREN'T YOU.

...DO I LOOK SO IMMATURE?

WELL, WE'RE DONE SHOPPING...

LET'S GO DRINK COFFEE OR SOMETHING. TODAY, IT'S MY TREAT!

PURR PURR

WE'RE STUDENTS AT NAKAGAWA HIGH SCHOOL... WHY DON'T WE GO ON A DATE?

YOU'RE CUTE...

J-JUST A MINUTE, YOU GUYS! AREN'T YOU BEING RUDE?!!

JOLT

SHOULDN'T YOU BE GOING HOME FOR THE NOV. 15 CEREMONY, KID?

WHO'S THIS JERK!?

SFX: <IRRITATION!>

YIPES!

WHAT'S THAT?

PEEK

C-CAN'T ...LET YOU SAY...!

YES, THAT'S RIGHT.

HEY, HEY. RATHER THAN HANGING OUT WITH A LITTLE KID LIKE TH S... COME WITH US...!

NOTE: THE "NOVEMBER 15 CEREMONY" IS THE FESTIVE DAY FOR BOYS OF 3 AND 5-YEARS-OLD, AND GIRLS OF 3 AND 7-YEARS OLD.

AH, W-WAIT!

THANKS FOR THE HOSPITALITY!

DAMN!

SFX: <SWISH!>

R-RIGHT!

WHAT ARE YOU DOING? IF YOU DON'T HURRY THE DOORS WILL SHUT ON YOU!

TRUDGE TRUDGE

PEEK

AYUKAWA... SHE SURE SEEMS ANGRY.

HOW PATHETIC! IF THIS KEEPS UP ...MORE AND MORE, I'LL BE TREATED COLDLY LIKE A LITTLE BROTHER...

N-NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT...

THAT'S ODD. DON'T YOU SMELL SOMETHING BURNING?

HUH?

CLICK

CLICK

SCRREEE ...

AH!

JOLT

WAH !!

HELLO!

OH, YEAH.

THERE'S A TELEPHONE!

WH-WHAT'LL WE DO !?

F-FIRE!!

OKAY. BE PATIENT A LITTLE WHILE LONGER. HELP IS DEFINITELY ...

HELLO. RIGHT NOW WE'RE IN AN ELEVATOR...

EH?

DISCONNECT

WAHHHHH! SMOKE OVER HERE TOO...!

OH...

IT LOOKS AS IF IT'S OUT THERE AS WELL, SO THEY MAY NOT HAVE TIME TO RESCUE US...

IT'S A FIRE AFTER ALL...

WHAT IS IT?

THUD

EVEN THE CEILING PANEL WON'T OPEN!

COUGH

NOTE: ONE WONDERS WHAT THE HELL HE WAS STANDING ON...

IF I USE THE POWER, BOTH OF US COULD ESCAPE WITH EASE...

BUT, IF I DO, THEN THAT WOULD MEAN AYUKAWA ...

IT ISN'T GOING RIGHT, LIKE THE WAY IT DOES IN THE MOVIES.

SHIT! WHAT SHOULD I DO!?

THE SMOKE'S THIS BAD ALREADY ...

BUT... IF SHE THINKS OF ME AS A BRAT, THEN... I'VE NO CHANCE AT A RELATIONSHIP WITH HER.

A-ARE YOU ALL RIGHT!?

COUGH COUGH

I'LL HAVE TO CHANGE SCHOOLS AGAIN.

I'M REALLY ...

AYUKAWA... DON'T BE SURPRISED, BUT PLEASE LISTEN TO ME!

A I DON'T THINK OF YOU AS A KID BROTHER.

KASUGA-KUN...

IF WE'LL DIE...

I WON-DER...

EH!?

THAT'S IT. IF I CONCENTRATE THE POWER ON MY EARS!

SOMEONE'S VOICE!?

I-I HEAR SOMETHING!!

KASUGA-KUN...!?

SHH! BE QUIET!!

WHAT? WHAT'S THE MATTER?

IT'S FROM OUTSIDE THE ELEVATOR!

2 3 4 5 6 7 8

I FAINTLY HEAR...!! SOMEONE'S VOICE!

NO MISTAKE ABOUT IT...

G-GOOD...!

WHEW!

EH!!?

I-I MEAN, I FEEL THAT WAY FOR SOME REASON...

LOOK! EVEN THE SMOKE ISN'T COMING IN ANYMORE.

SO LET'S BE A LITTLE MORE PATIENT.

IT'S ALL RIGHT!

I'M SURE WE'LL BE RESCUED!!

HMM, KASUGA-KUN?

YOU'RE A GUY AFTER ALL,

UH-HMM!

YOU'RE HOLDING THAT AGAINST ME, HUH!?

REALLY? I'M SO HAPPY YOU THINK SO.

NOW...

EH!?

N-NO. THAT WAS ...

DON'T WORRY ABOUT THAT. IT WASN'T IMPOR-TANT...

I WONDER IF AYUKAWA THINKS A BIT BETTER OF ME AS A GUY NOW.

WHAT WERE YOU ABOUT TO SAY A LITTLE WHILE AGO?

WELL, PUTTING THAT ASIDE,

"NOT BE SURPRISED" WHAT?

HMMM!?

QUITE SURE... WHAT?

I WAS QUITE SURE THAT ...

WHAAAT?

AH, THAT'S NOT FAIR!

NOTHING.

AND 10 MINUTES LATER... WE WERE SAFELY RESCUED FROM THE ELEVATOR...

SIGN: CHUUGOKU DEPARTMENT STORE,7TH FLOOR ROMEO-20

EH?

HEY, KASUGA-KUN...

THE TRUTH WAS... THIS DISTURBANCE ORIGINATED AT THE RESTAURANT INSIDE THE DEPARTMENT STORE. SMOKE FROM A SMALL FIRE GOT INTO THE VENTILATION AND ENTERED THE ELEVATOR. THAT'S ALL IT WAS!

IF YOU KNEW, WHY DIDN'T YOU SAY SO? THAT'S SNEAKY!

UNBELIEVABLE! TROUBLING SOMEONE LIKE THAT. THERE'S A LIMIT TO HOW FAR YOU CAN GO!

EH!?

BECAUSE OF THAT PHONE CALL, YOU KNEW IT WAS NO BIG DEAL, DIDN'T YOU!

ACTUALLY, I SAY THAT, BUT OF COURSE IT'S A LIE...

I TELL YOU I REALLY DIDN'T KNOW!

W-WAIT JUST A MINUTE!

WAH!

A NEKO

WAIT!

AYUKAWAAA!

THE SUSPICIOUS RING

IT WAS SUCH A "TRIVIAL" INCIDENT THAT SEIZED MY ATTEN-TION...

B-A

AYUKAWA IS ABSENT FROM SCHOOL!!

ON TOP OF THAT, THIS HAS GONE ON FOR 3 DAYS...

SHE DID PLAY HOOKY A LOT, BUT I HAVEN'T SEEN HER FACE THE WHOLE DAY ...IT'S THE FIRST TIME IT'S HAPPENED SINCE I STARTED COMING TO THIS SCHOOL...

EXCEPT FOR...

NOW, OF ALL TIMES, EVEN HIKARU-CHAN DOESN'T SEEM TO KNOW WHY AYUKAWA IS ABSENT!

SIGN: KURIMOTO STORE

THAT'S RIGHT! SHE LOOKED AT THE SCHEDULE FOR THE BULLET TRAIN...

BUT, AS I RECALL, THE DAY BEFORE SHE TOOK LEAVE, SHE SEEMED VERY CONCERNED ABOUT THE TIME.

BUT SHE DIDN'T SAY WHY SHE'D BE GONE.

SHE ASKED EARLIER IF SHE COULD TAKE A BREAK...

BUT TAKING OFF FROM SCHOOL JUST TO GO WHERE ...!?

EH? NO. I'M ONLY... I'M...!

AHH ...

STOP HIDING IT!

YOU SEEM VERY CONCERNED ...

THEN SHE'S ON A TRIP SOMEWHERE ...

THE BULLET TRAIN!?

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GOOD MORNING ...

AYUKAWA CAME BACK!

.....

GOOD MORNING!

THEN, THE NEXT DAY...

WHAT YOU'RE REALLY SAYING IS THAT YOU'VE ALREADY FORGOTTEN MY FACE, TOO.

BUT IT SORTA FEELS LIKE I HAVEN'T SEEN YOUR FACE IN A LONG WHILE.

EH, NO.

WHAAAT? IS THERE SOMETHING ON MY FACE?

UH, YEAH... WELL, SORTA.

DID YOU GO ON A TRIP OR SOMETHING?

THIS KIND OF THING IS NOTICE-ABLE.

HEY, COME WITH ME!

....

HUH? IT'S TRUE.

YOU HAVE A TOOTH-PASTE STAIN.

AH!

Y-YEAH...

HOLD STILL, 'KAY?

SHHHHH

YOU'RE WELCOME

SHE'S BEING UNUSUALLY NICE TODAY ...

TH-THANK YOU.

DAD, SHALL I MASSAGE YOUR SHOULDERS?

WHAT'S UP WITH KURUMI? SHE SEEMS TO BE UNUSUALLY CHEERFUL...

OH, HOW CONSID-ERATE!

UH, DEAR OLDER BROTHER, HOW ABOUT SOME COFFEE?

ESPECIALLY GIRLS.

WHAT? IF SOME-THING PLEASANT HAPPENS, ANYONE WOULD BECOME NICE.

IS THAT IT?

WOMEN ARE SO SIMPLE.

KURUMI IS HAPPY BECAUSE DAD BOUGHT HER A DRESS.

SPEAKING OF MOOD ...

YOU COULD SAY THAT, YOU COULD SAY THAT.

SO IF SHE HAD A BOYFRIEND, THERE WOULD BE NO END TO HER NICENESS BEYOND JUST SERVING COFFEE.

IF SO... I'M SURE IT WAS DURING THE THREE DAYS SHE WAS GONE SOME-WHERE.

AYUKAWA'S A GIRL, TOO... THEN I WONDER IF SOMETHING GOOD HAPPENED TO HER AS WELL.

AYUKAWA WAS SURE IN A GOOD MOOD TODAY ...

THEN HIKARU-SAN WAS BEING NICE TO YOU TODAY.

N-NO.

AHA...

EH!?

U-UH... I WONDER IF THAT SORT OF THING HAPPENS FOR ANY AND ALL GIRLS.

A WAY ...

OF HIDING ...?

SUDDENLY BE-COMING NICE COULD BE A WAY OF HIDING THE FACT THAT THERE'S SOME-ONE NEW THAT HE OR SHE LIKES A LOT.

IT'S NOT JUST US GIRLS...

BUT, YOU'D BETTER BE CAREFUL, BIG BROTHER.

...THAT WAS HERE BEFORE!

SMILE

...SHE'S NOT THE AYUKAWA ...

DEFI-NITELY ...

HMM?

.....

IT'S NOT THAT...

YOU DON'T LOOK SO GOOD.

WHAT'S THE MATTER?

SFX: <BOP>

SIGN: DOCTOR'S OFFICE

GOING HOME NOW? RATHER EARLY TODAY, HUH?

AYUKAWA HAS SOMEHOW SEEMED CHEERFUL SINCE YESTERDAY...

OH, S-SURE!

"WHERE", HE SAYS... TO ABCB!

EH? WH-WHERE TO?

WILL YOU BE DROPPING BY TODAY?

SO, SURE ENOUGH, THE TRIP...

DOES INVOLVE A GUY...!?

SUDDENLY BECOMING NICE COULD BE A WAY OF HIDING THE FACT THAT THERE'S SOMEONE NEW THAT HE OR SHE LIKES A LOT.

BUT... IF THAT'S THE CASE, WHO IS IT...!?

IT'S UNUSUAL FOR HER TO BE SMILING. INDEED!!

I DID.

HUH!? I DIDN'T ORDER A PIZZA OR ANYTHING.

HERE YOU GO. SORRY YOU HAD TO WAIT!

LET'S EAT IT TOGE-THER.

AT OUR AGE, LUNCH ALONE ISN'T ENOUGH.

PLOP

HERE'S YOUR WATER!

STARE

.....

IT'S NOT POISONED.

TH-THEN. BUT THAT CAN'T BE ...!!

ON TOP OF THAT, SINCE IT'S ON HER LEFT RING FINGER,

AYUKAWA DIDN'T HAVE A RING BEFORE!

IT MEANS SHE'S ENGAGED OR SOME-THING...

MMM...

A RING ...!?

HUH!? FOR ME?

AYUKAWA- KLUUN. TELEPHONE.

BUT AYUKAWA AND I ARE BOTH IN JUNIOR HIGH ...!!

SFX: <RING RING>

OH!

IT'S FROM A MAN NAMED HAMADA... WITH A KANSAI ACCENT, WHO AT ANY RATE IS IN- VOLVED WITH THE ENGAGEMENT.

JUST A MINUTE, AYUKAWA- KUN...

SFX: <KER-RAAASH>

AH, THANK YOU FOR CARE OF ME LAST TIME.

AH. TH- THANKS

HELLO. THIS IS SHE.

PLOP

S-SORRY ...

THEN, GIVE MY REGARDS TO YOUR FATHER AND MOTHER!

SO IF IT'S POSSIBLE, AROUND SUMMER-TIME OR SO.

I'M STILL A STUDENT ...

WHAT!? THE DATE OF THE CEREMONY!?

UH, NO-O-O-O...! YOU EVEN INVITED ME TO DINNER THEN.

IF YOU'D LIKE... SHALL I POUR YOU ANOTHER ONE?

CLANG

DING

THEY BECOME MORE AT HOME AT THIS SORT OF THING.

WHEN WOMEN GET MARRIED...

I-I'M GOING HOME!!

KASUGA-KUN...

SFX. <RATTLE>

WHAT IN THE WORLD ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

BUT... WHENEVER THERE'S ANYTHING TROUBLING, ONE DOES GO HOME.

BE HAPPY, AYUKAWA-KUN! OVER THERE, THE TAKOYAKI IS DELICIOUS, AND THERE'S YOSHIMOTO INDUSTRIES, TOO...

WELL, IT WASN'T STRANGE, BUT... IT DOES SEEM A BIT TOO EARLY...

DID I... SAY SOMETHING TO MAKE HIM ANGRY?

KNOCK KNOCK

HERE'S YOUR DINNER... WELL, ACTUALLY IT'S ALREADY TIME FOR A LATE NIGHT MEAL NOW!

I LET MYSELF IN, BIG BROTHER.

SLAM

Y-YOU THINK SO?

YOU'RE NOT YOUR USUAL SELF, BIG BROTHER FOR SOME REASON ...

TO SOMEHOW DO SOMETHING AND GIVE IT YOUR BEST... THAT'S THE WAY YOU USUALLY ARE, BIG BROTHER

WELL, I'M NOT FEELING VERY CONFIDENT ...

SINCE YOU GOT HOME, YOU'VE SHUT YOURSELF IN YOUR ROOM...

OKAY! IF IT'S GONNA BE LIKE THIS, THEN IT'S TIME TO USE MY SECRET WEAPON! SINCE I'VE NEVER DONE TH S SORT OF THING BEFORE, I DON'T REALLY KNOW, BUT THE HELL WITH IT.

OH, AND IF YOU DON'T EAT IT SOON, IT'LL GET COLD!

BYE.

REALLY! HE'S SO ABSENT-MINDED...

IT'S KASUGA-KUN'S.

HUH!?

AH!

CLACK

OH NO!

SCATTER-BRAIN! YOU LEFT SOME-THING BEHIND.

THE DOORS ALL NEARLY LOOK ALIKE...

OH, GOOD. THIS IS WHERE YOU WERE.

COME TO THINK OF IT, THAT'S TRUE.

THAT I'VE BROUGHT YOU YOUR SCHOOL-BAG. *

HUH?

THAT'S TWICE!

IF AYUKAWA WON'T TELL ME ABOUT THE MARRIAGE HERSELF, THEN I'LL USE THE POWER TO READ HER MIND!!

SURE.

WANT TO COME WITH ME TO THE ROOFTOP?

THAT'S IT!! THE MOST SUITABLE, PEACEFUL PLACE FOR CONCEN-TRATING ON ONE'S THOUGHTS WOULD BE...

* THEY BOTH REFER, OF COURSE, TO THE EVENTS IN CHAPTER 1.3, "THE LIP SECRET"...

WHAT'S GOING ON? INVITING SOMEONE TO A PLACE LIKE THIS...

WOW! THE CITY'S SO BEAUTIFUL, HMM!!?

"THAT" THING?

AYUKAWA... SINCE, UH, THAT...

BUT THEN, LOOKING INTO SOMEONE'S HEART IS SO COWARDLY ...!

WHAT'S "THAT" THING ALL ABOUT?

...FOR THAT SORT OF THING!!

B-BUT I THINK THAT IT'S STILL TOO SOON,

UHM, THAT ...

...PHONE CALL AT LUNCHTIME FROM THAT PERSON NAMED HAMADA...

I TELL YOU, THAT PERSON PHONING ME THERE WAS SO EMBARRASSING.

OH NO, YOU WERE LISTENING TO THAT!

BUT I THINK YOU GETTING ENGAGED...!

MY BIG SISTER IS 27!

HUH? IT'S NOT TOO SOON.

THAT'S WHY WE WENT TOGETHER.

IF I DON'T HELP HER BY GOING WITH HER AND GIVING MY SUPPORT, THE WHOLE ARRANGEMENT LOOKS LIKE IT MIGHT FAIL.

27...?

WHAT!?

THAT'S WHY THE INTERMEDIATOR CALLED ME RATHER THAN MY SISTER TODAY.

IT'S BECAUSE MY BIG SISTER IS TERRIBLY SHY.

AFTER ALL, THIS IS HER SEVENTH MARRIAGE INTERVIEW. *

IT'S A LITTLE DIFFICULT TO TALK ABOUT ...

I WASN'T EXACTLY HIDING IT, BUT ...

69 NOTE THEY'RE REFERRING TO <OMIAI> (ARRANGED MARRIAGE INTERVIEWS) A MEDIATOR, AND USUALLY THE WANNA-BE BRIDE'S/GROOM'S PARENTS, SET UP MARRIAGE INTERVIEWS. SINCE MR. AND MRS. AYUKAWA ARE IN AMERICA. . WE LEARN THIS LATER IN CHAPTER 3.7 MADOKA APPARENTLY IS FILLING IN FOR THEM.

OH, YOU NOTICED?

BUT, TH-THAT RING...!?

WHAAAAT!?

TH-THEN, SINCE YOU'RE GETTING MARRIED...

I WONDER IF I'M GETTING A LITTLE FAT?

BUT IT DOESN'T COME OFF...!

I WENT AND PUT THIS ON FOR MY BIG SISTER'S MARRIAGE INTERVIEW...

ISN'T THIS NICE. I BOUGHT THIS WITH THE MONEY I EARNED WORKING AT ABCB.

SFX: <COLLAPSE>

IT WAS NOTHING. IT SEEMS I WAS JUMPING TO CONCLUSIONS ...

?

WHA, WHA...

WHEN I THINK IT OVER CALMLY, IT'S UNLIKELY THAT AYUKAWA, A JUNIOR HIGH STUDENT, WOULD BE GETTING MARRIED...

LEAVE IT TO ME!!

OKAY!

HERE.

HEY, TRY AND PULL IT OFF FOR ME.

NNNNNNN

...

BUT... IF THAT DAY SHOULD COME, WILL I BE THERE AT HER SIDE...!?

AH !!

...IS SOME-THING I'D RATHER NOT BE DOING!!

IT CAME OFF!!

End of Chapter 011

ALCOHOL BLUES

YOU LIVE IN A PRETTY NICE PLACE.
WOW!
NOT REALLY.

NOBODY SAID ANYTHING ABOUT "GIVING"!!
SO THERE'S NO WAY I'LL GIVE IT UP!

THE FACT THAT YOU'RE A JUNIOR HIGH STUDENT, DON'T YOU THINK THAT'S UNHEALTHY?
FOR SOME REASON, YOU DON'T SEEM INTERESTED IN THIS SORT OF THING.
TAKING OUTRAGEOUS SHOTS AT ME

HMM...

HUGE POSTER.
I HAD A TOUGH TIME GETTING MY HANDS ON IT!
THE FAN CLUB IS REALLY WORTH JOINING, HUH?

WH-WHAT?

THAT'S RIGHT. YOU ALREADY HAVE...

OH, I SEE.

IT'S NOT THAT I'M UN-INTERESTED, BUT...

IS HE TALKING ABOUT AYUKAWA?

AH?

I CAN'T POSSIBLY IMAGINE THAT IT IS.

BUT... IS A DELINQUENT THAT NICE?

FIRST YEAR?

BUT DESPITE THE FACT THAT SHE'S A FIRST-YEAR, SHE'S RATHER CHEEKY...!

WHY WOULD HIYAMA HIKARU BE IN THE SAME CLASS?

ISN'T SHE IN THE SAME CLASS AS US?

THAT GIRL YOU'RE THINKING ABOUT ISN'T SUCH A DELINQUENT.

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THAT'S RIGHT. I COMPLETELY FORGOT ABOUT HIKARU-CHAN!

EH? NO, NOT REALLY ...

WHAAAT!? YOU HAVE SOMEONE ELSE!?

HIKARU-CHAN?

EH!?

WHETHER IT'S WITH HIKARU OR OUR CLASSMATE AYUKAWA, IF YOU KEEP BEING FRIENDLY YOU'RE GOING TO GET INTO BIG TROUBLE.

BUT I TELL YOU, KASUGA...

QUIT HIDING, QUIT HIDING!

BUT I'M NOT GOING OUT WITH HIKARU-CHAN...

.....

WELL... NOWADAYS IT'S SURE A WONDER THAT SHE SEEMS SO WELL-BEHAVED...

OH YEAH. SINCE YOU'RE HERE, STAY AND HAVE DINNER.

EH? WH-WHAT? AYUKAWA WAS WHAT?

AFTER ALL, AYUKAWA USED TO BE ...

THANK YOU. CAN YOU BRING IT TO ME?

SEIJI!! DINNER'S READY.

I'VE BEEN ABLE TO BE A BIT MORE FRIENDLY WITH AYUKAWA LATELY...

AND YET... JUST THEN, WHY DID AYUKAWA AND NOT HIKARU-CHAN IMMEDIATELY COME TO MIND?

BUT, I DON'T KNOW A THING ABOUT AYUKAWA'S PAST!!

KASUGA-KUN!

EH!?

SO, TODAY'S A HOLIDAY! I'VE GOT FREE TIME.

MASTER CLOSED THE PLACE AND TOOK THE DAY OFF!

HUH? BUT TODAY'S SUNDAY. AREN'T YOU WORKING AT ABCB?

OH, YOU'RE SO CRUEL. I'M NOT A CHILD.

CHILDREN WHO PLAY AROUND THESE SORTS OF PLACES GET TAKEN AWAY BY TERRIFYING PEOPLE.

YES, YES. I'M A BRAT.

I'M OKAY! BECAUSE I'M BRAVE.

THAT'S JUST LIKE YOU...

WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY THAT!?

ON DAYS THAT I DON'T HAVE TO WORK I USUALLY HANG AROUND THIS NEIGHBORHOOD.

OHH, "MOEBIUS"!

THAT'S THE DISCO WE WENT TO BEFORE...

WHAT?

HUH!?

I'D NEVER EVEN THOUGHT SHE'D GET THIS CLOSE ...

WAIT A MINUTE!

EH!?

THE LAST TIME WE CAME HERE...

THEN, YOU WANNA GO DANCING FOR A BIT?

ARG! M-MADOKA!

HEY, HEY. C'MON, YOU SHOW-OFFS. YOU TWO OVER THERE!

L-LONG TIME NO SEE, MADOKA.

WH-WHAT'S WITH THESE PEOPLE ...?

ST-STUPID. WE CAN'T RETREAT NOW!

WH-WHAT'LL WE DO? OF ALL THE PEOPLE TO MOUTH OFF TO, IT HAD TO BE HER! L-LET'S RUN AWAY!

YOU WERE FAMOUS FOR NOT TAKING UP WITH A SPECIAL GUY. INSIDE YOUR TOUGH EXTERIOR YOU WERE LIKE THIS, HMM...

TH-THOUGHT I HADN'T SEEN YOU IN A WHILE. SO THIS IS WHAT YOU WERE UP TO...

DATING A CUTE KID TONIGHT?

EH? NOT TAKE UP WITH A SPECIAL GUY ...!?

K-KID!?

G-GOOD. I'VE GONE THIS FAR, SO I MIGHT AS WELL GO ON.

WHISPER WHISPER

I-IT SEEMS TO BE ALL RIGHT.

SFX: <IRRITATION!>

EH?

KID, YOU BETTER BE CAREFUL AROUND MADOKA.

YEAH, THAT'S RIGHT. LISTEN WELL.

MADOKA USED TO BE REALLY TERRIBLE...!

ETC.

ETC.

SHE DID THAT SORT OF THING.

SHE DID THIS SORT OF THING.

APOLOGIZE!

YOU'RE BEING RUDE!

KASUGA-KUN!

CUT IT OUT!!

H-HEY!

HEYYY.

LET'S GO!

AND I'M NOT A KID!!

WHAAAT!?

DIDN'T THAT STUFF THEY WERE SAYING MAKE YOU ANGRY?

WHY DIDN'T YOU TALK BACK AT THEM, AYUKAWA !?

SO IT'S OKAY, NOW.

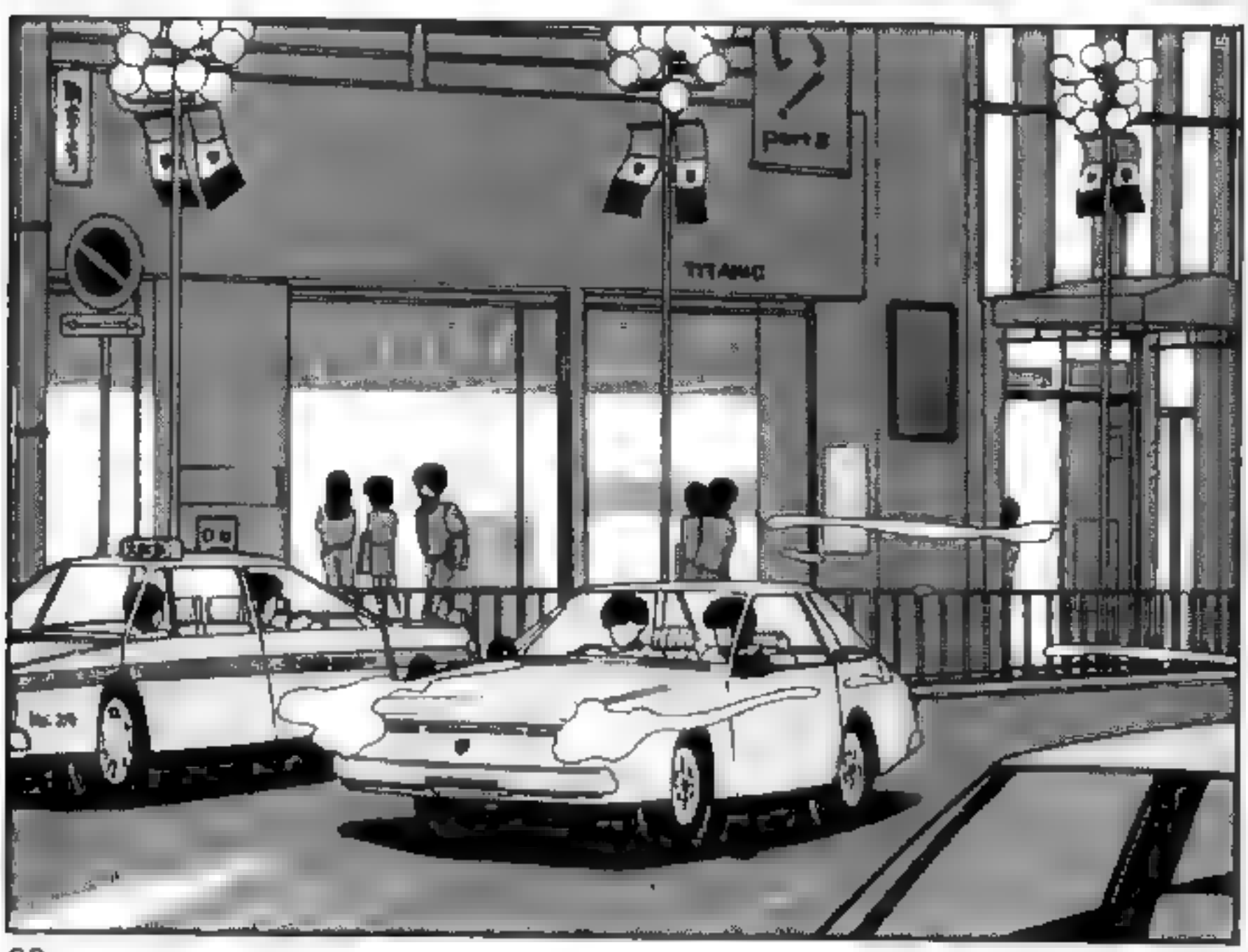
KASUGA-KUN, YOU SAID ENOUGH FOR ME.

SHE'S NOT AS BAD A GIRL AS KOMATSU AND THOSE GIRLS SAY SHE IS!

IT'S NOT THAT IT DOESN'T BOTHER ME... BUT HER PAST IS HER PAST!

RIGHT!?

YEAH...



STILL, I'M ANGRY...!

BUT...

HUH?

ALL RIGHT. THEN THERE'S ONLY ONE THING TO DO AT A TIME LIKE THIS!

BOP

ITE

YUP. WE CAME TO SCOUT YOU OUT TODAY.

OH, THEN YOU'RE THE COMPETITION.

THAT'S BECAUSE LATELY, I'VE ALSO BEEN WORKING AT ABCB!

MADOKA, I HAVEN'T SEEN YOU IN QUITE A WHILE, HMM!?

HUH? TH-THIS...

SORTA.

DO YOU COME HERE OFTEN?

ISN'T IT GOOD!?

HOW IS IT?

HMM.

BUT BOTH SHE AND THE WAITRESS SEEM TO KNOW EACH OTHER...

AYUKAWA REALLY KNOWS THE WORLD THAT I DON'T KNOW!

DOES THIS, BY ANY CHANCE, HAVE ALCOHOL IN IT?

B-BUT ...

YEAH...

GULP

IT ONLY HAS A TINY BIT.

IT'S ALL RIGHT!

W-WELL. IT'S OKAY. JUST TODAY. .

OH. I SEE.

PERHAPS IT WAS BECAUSE I WAS DRINKING WITH AYUKAWA BUT THERE WAS NO TRACE OF THE RUMORED BIT-TERNESS, BUT RATHER, IT EVEN ACTUALLY TASTED SWEET... THAT'S SCARY!

MY FIRST TASTE OF SAKE...

EXIT

CAN I HAVE ANOTHER...?

YESSS. THIS ONE TASTED GREAT!

EXCUUUUSE ME.

BUT ...

IT'S ONLY MY 6TH GLASS ...!

HUH?

HUH?

I THINK YOUR EYES ARE STARTING TO LOOK GLAZED...

HEY, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

...SHALL WE GO NOW?

JUST LIKE MY SISTERS, KURUMI AND MANAMI!

WOWWW! LOOK, LOOK, THEEE ARE TWO AYUKAWA SISTERS!

IT LOOKS AS IF MIXING KASUGA-KUN WITH ALCOHOL WAS ASKING THE IMPOSSIBLE AFTER ALL.

I'M OKAY, I'M OKAY. THIS IS NOTHING.

I'M ALL RIIIGHT!

ARE YOU ALL RIGHT NOW!?

STAGGER

TOTTER

OOPS.

CALLING ME A KID!

THEY REALLY BUG ME!

ARE THEY YOUR FRIENDS?

THOSE FOLKS A WHILE BACK ...!

SOMEHOW, LITTLE BY LITTLE, I'M GETTING MAD AGAIN!

KINDA...

BESIDES...

WHY MUST I BE CALLED A KID!?

THAT'S TRUE, BUT...

YOU SHOULD FORGET ABOUT THOSE PEOPLE.

THEY'RE TALKING TRASH ABOUT AYUKAWA!

C-CAREFUL.

WOBBLE

I-I DON'T LIKE IT.

BESIDES ...?

I HATE DELINQUENTS THE MOST...!!

GENERALLY SPEAKING,

TOTTER

OH BROTHER.

AH!

SFX: <STAGGER>

EH?

IF THAT'S SO, THEN FROM YOUR POINT-OF-VIEW, I'M A DELINQUENT, TOO!?

YOU'RE WRONG ...

HEYYY, LOOK OUT!!

YOU'RE DIFFERENT FROM THEM!

SFX <SLAP!>

YELP!

AH

OH! HE'S COMING TO!

WH-WHAT'S THIS? WHAT HAPPENED TO ME?

OW-OW-OUCH.

MY ROOM ...?

H-HUH ...!?

SFX: <SPROING!>

OH, THAT'S IT. I WAS DRINKING WITH AYUKAWA YESTERDAY ...

BUT, GETTING SO TOTALLY DRUNK AND STILL ABLE TO MAKE IT BACK HOME, HMM...

A JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT AND HERE YOU ARE DRINKING ALCOHOL!

OF COURSE NOT. HE WAS SO DRUNK YESTER-DAY!

BIG BROTHER, DON'T YOU REMEMBER ANYTHING?

YOU'RE DIFFERENT FROM THEM!

AH!

BUT I DON'T REMEMBER MUCH AFTER THAT.

SFX. <SHIVER!>

IN A MOMENT OF DRUNKENNESS, AS I WAS ABOUT TO KISS AYUKAWA...

THAT'S RIGHT! THEN I .

THAT'S TERRIBLE...! O-OH GOD!!

AYUKAWA... IS SHE MAD AT ME!?

ちぐはぐ気分！の巻

TITLE: THE INCOHERENT FEELING!

SFX: <RATTLE'>

AH, NO, IT'S NOTHING...

WHAT ARE YOU DOING SO EARLY IN THE MORNING?

Y-YES!

KASUGA-KUN.

YOW!

BUT...

SFX: <TENSION!>

PEEK

HOW UNPLEASANT! CONSIDERING WHAT HAPPENED YESTERDAY, I DON'T HAVE THE GUTS TO FACE AYUKAWA...

STARE

SFX: <LOSE HEART>

IF I COULD, I'D RATHER BE HOME TODAY!

AAAH!

SFX: <LRKK!>

HMMPH!

G-GOOD MORNING.

カラコ

BUT... I HAVE TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT THIS!

SFX: <CLING CLONG CLANG CLONG>

A-AT THE TIME, I...

U-UH... ABOUT YESTERDAY ...

AYUKAWA!

IT'S NOT GOING TO BE EASY TO SOLVE THIS ..

SHE WON'T EVEN LISTEN TO ANYTHING I SAY

STRIDE STRIDE

FWIP

Edited by ZlleH, from #mangascans on Dalnet

I'M SURE ...

HUH?

AH...

I ORDERED ICE TEA.

HUH?

BUT... THAT'S SO STRANGE.

OH, DON'T WORRY.

SORRY, I'LL MAKE IT AGAIN, RIGHT AWAY.

OH, THAT'S RIGHT ...

DID SOMETHING HAPPEN?

OH, I MEAN, FOR YOU TO MAKE AN ABSENT-MINDED MISTAKE...

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OH!

WHAT?

IT WAS ONLY AN UNSUCCESS-FUL PASS!!

E-EVERY-THING'S FINE!

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

"UNSUC-CESSFUL PASS"...?

KASUGA-KUN...

SPEAKING OF STRANGE, HE HASN'T COME TODAY, HMM?

EVEN THOUGH HE SAID HE HATES DELINQUENTS, TO THEN TURN AROUND AND TRY SOMETHING LIKE THAT!

YOU'RE DIFFERENT FROM THEM!

WHAT THE HECK WAS HE TRYING TO PULL? AT THAT MOMENT, I MIGHT HAVE...

HERE, HIKARU. ICE TEA!

THUD

?

SO THEN ...

AYUKAWA-KUN.

IN THE END, HE NEVER DID SHOW HIS FACE HERE,

HMM?

THAT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH ME.

...IN THAT CASE, THEN IT'S OKAY, BUT...

I MEAN, IT'S REALLY NICE TO BE YOUNG, HMM!?

SINCE YOUTHS ARE FREQUENTLY HOT-HEADED AND HAVE TOO MUCH ENERGY, THEY GET SIDE-TRACKED...

BUT, AS FOR HIM, THERE SHOULD ALSO BE TIMES THAT CALL FOR SERIOUSNESS!

WELL, HE'S A REGULAR CUSTOMER

...AND WE SHOULD TAKE GOOD CARE OF THOSE!

TAURANT

I PUT YOU THROUGH AN EXHAUSTING TIME.*

SFX: <SLAM>

'KAY!

* NOTE: A COMMON PHRASE THAT DOESN'T TRANSLATE WELL INTO ENGLISH--SOMETHING SAID IN COURTESY AFTER A LONG DAY OF WORK. IT IMPLIES AN APOLOGY FOR HAVING PUT THE OTHER THROUGH SUCH AN ORDEAL.

EH!?

EXCUSE ME...

3-A

WH-WHAT IS IT?

Y-YES!!

IT'S ABOUT YESTER-DAY...

SFX: <BRISK>

IF WE DON'T GO EARLY, WE WON'T HAVE THE PLEASURE OF MEETING THE ILLUSIVE KATSU-SAND TODAY.

AH. EH!? BUT...

KASUGA, LET'S GO BUY SOME BREAD!!

WAIT FOR ME, MY LITTLE KATSU-SAAAND.

I'LL EAT LUNCH WITH HIKARU THEN

SFX: WAHHH, OUCH!

SFX: OHHH!

SFX: <NOISILY>

THAT'S NO GOOD!! DURING YOUR GROWTH YEARS, YOU SHOULDN'T BE EATING THIS SORT OF STUFF!

W-WELL ...

DO YOU USUALLY HAVE BREAD FOR LUNCH, SEMPAI?

HUH?

Y-YEAH!

RIGHT!? DARLING.

I KNOW! I'LL SHARE MY BOX LUNCH WITH YOU AND WE'LL EAT IT TOGETHER ON THE ROOFTOP!

GO FOR IT...

KASU-GAAA.

THAT'S GOOD, THAT'S GOOD!

SLIDE SLIDE

MADOKA-SAN DOESN'T SEEM HER USUAL SELF AND IS ACTING ABSENT-MINDED.

THAT'S RIGHT.

AYUKAWA IS ACTING STRANGE?

STILL... I WONDER IF SOMETHING HAPPENED?

SFX: <THUMP!>

S-SOMETHING BIG, HUH...?

LIQUOR IS SO FRIGHTENING.

SHE'S NOT TALKING ABOUT IT, EVEN TO ME. I'M SURE SOMETHING BIG MUST HAVE HAPPENED!

SFX: <THUMP!>

ROOFTOP?

IT LOOKED AS IF SHE WAS GOING TO THE ROOFTOP.

HIKARU? OH, IF YOU MEAN HIYAMA-SAN ...

1-B

CHOMP

AHHH

HERE! SAY "AHH".

BUT, IS IT OKAY FOR ME TO BE DOING SOMETHING LIKE THIS RIGHT NOW...

I WONDER IF I'LL MAKE A GOOD WIFE?

W-WELL. I SUPPOSE.

Y-YEAH...

TASTE GOOD?

HUH?

AYUKAWA ...!!

O-OH NO! EVEN THOUGH THINGS WERE BAD ENOUGH, WITH THIS I'M HISTORY!!

HUH? WHERE, WHERE?

LOOK!! WHAT'S THAT? IT'S A BIRD!

SFX: <RUN!>

I'M SORRY, HIKARU-CHAN!

W-WAIT, AYUKAWA!

THAT'S STRANGE. HE'S NOT HERE.

HUH? DARLING?

NOW. I CAN'T VERY WELL LET HER KNOW ABOUT AYUKAWA!

SFX: <SLAM>

ARRRGH. I'LL TELEPORT ON AHEAD OF HER!

SWISH

SFX: <STEP STEP>

IF HE WANTS TO GET FRIENDLY WITH HIKARU, THEN FINE!

WHAT!? THAT GUY! I WAS FINALLY GOING TO LET HIM OFF THE HOOK.

SFX: <STEP STEP>

STEP

STEP

WHAT IS IT? IF IT CAN MAKE ME LAUGH, THEN FINE...

ANYWAY, LISTEN TO WHAT I HAVE TO SAY!

SUCH AN IR-RESPONSIBLE PERSON!

EVERYTHING I DID AND SAID THEN WAS BECAUSE OF THE ALCOHOL!

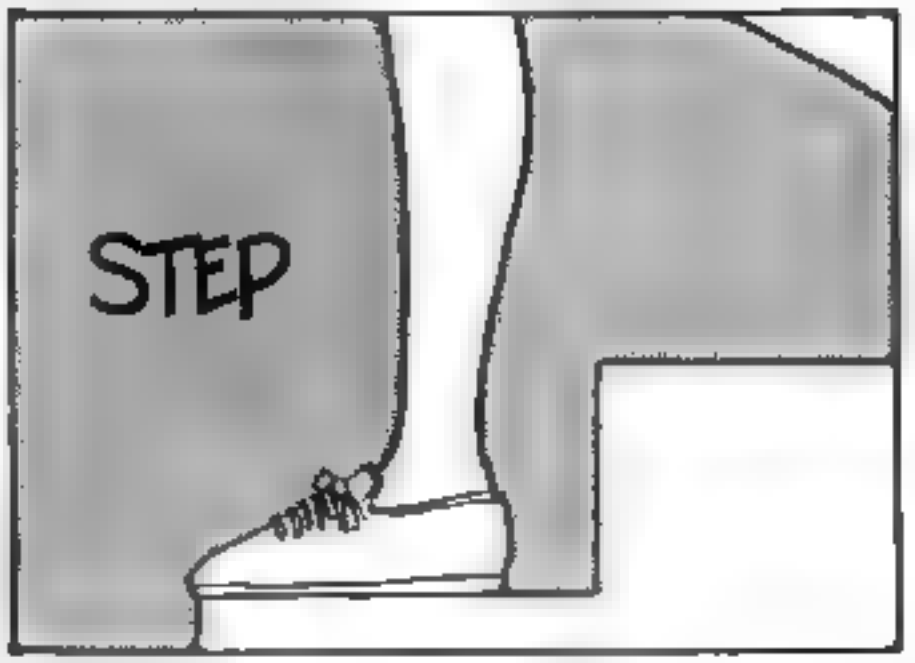
TRULY, IT WASN'T MY INTENTION TO DO THAT SORT OF THING.

AH!

KASUGA-KUN, JUST BY GETTING DRUNK YOU'RE LIABLE TO DO THAT SORT OF THING?

KASUGA-KUN...
I MIS-JUDGED YOU,

STEP
STEP
GOOD-BYE


STEP

BUT THIS MUCH I'M SURE OF!
I WAS DRUNK THEN, AND DON'T REALLY REMEMBER...

REALLY?

IF IT WASN'T YOU, I WOULDN'T HAVE DONE SUCH A THING!

I'M NOT LYING!

SFX: <STEP STEP>

...PRETTY HUNGRY.

I'M...

THAT'S RIGHT! I STILL HAVEN'T EATEN LUNCH.

WAIT A MINUTE!

OH, YEAH.

SMILE

SFX: <CLONG>

...THE ILLUSIVE ...?

ISN'T THAT...

IT LOOKS AS THOUGH AYUKAWA'S MOOD IS CURED...

THEN WOULD YOU...

...LIKE TO HAVE THIS?

FOR THE TIME BEING... JOY JOY!

THANK YOU.

KATSU-SAND!

HUH? THIS IS REALLY GOOD ♡

THE TWO SNAPSHOTS

UH-HMM, I'M AT A LOSS OF WHAT TO DO...

BY ALL MEANS, THIS PROJECT NEEDS YOU, KASUGA-SENSEI.

COULD YOU SOMEHOW SEE YOUR WAY AROUND THAT POLICY?

Café ZuBoN

I HAVE A POLICY AGAINST TAKING PHOTOS OF PEOPLE, BUT...

ALLOWING YOURSELF TO TAKE ONLY LANDSCAPE PHOTOS, FRANKLY SPEAKING, IS A LOSS TO THE PHOTOGRAPHY WORLD.

I MEAN, SENSEI, YOUR PICTURES ARE--HOW DO YOU SAY... TRULY MARVELOUS.

HOWEVER... SAYING I'LL DO IT IS ALL VERY WELL... BUT WHAT ABOUT THE ALL-IMPORTANT MODEL?

I'VE TAKEN THE ASSIGNMENT AFTER ALL!

OH WELL...

THEN, YOU'LL DO IT!?

CRASH

I CAN'T VERY WELL USE KURUMI AND MANAMI FOR WORK

WHISH

AH!

WATCH WHERE YOU'RE GOING, YOU BLOCK-HEAD!!

OUCH...

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THUMP

MISTER, ARE YOU A PHOTO-GRAPHER?

HMMPH.

BRUSH BRUSH

A-ARE YOU HURT?

オロ オロ

S-SORRY ABOUT THAT.

SFX: <IN-A-DITHER>

STARE

I KNOW!!

COOOOL!

.....

CLOTHING GOODS STORE...

DESPITE MY APPEAR-ANCE, THERE WAS A TIME IN KINDERGARTEN WHEN I MODELED CHILDREN'S CLOTHES AT A LOCAL CLOTHING GOODS STORE.

EH?

HEY, TAKE A PICTURE OF ME.

SEE YA, MISTER!

YAH, I WISH... JUST JOKING.

HUH?

OH, WAIT A MOMENT, YOU.

HMM.

I WONDER IF I REALLY SHOULD ASK YOU.

ABOUT MODELING ...

!?

YEAH. I WON'T BE ABLE TO DO IT BY MYSELF THIS TIME SO I NEED AN ASSISTANT.

HELP YOU WITH WORK?

NEXT SUNDAY?

YEAH, I GUESS IT'S OKAY...

DAD WORKS AS A FREELANCE PHOTOGRAPHER!

BECAUSE OF HIS GENERAL POLICY AGAINST TAKING PICS OF PEOPLE, HE SPECIALIZES IN LANDSCAPES...

ALL RIGHT, THEN. I'M COUNTING ON YOU!

HE ABSOLUTELY NEVER TAKES PHOTOS OF WOMEN AS PART OF HIS JOB. HE SEEMS TO HAVE A STUBBORN STREAK.

...ALTHOUGH HE OCCASIONALLY TAKES PICTURES OF KURUMI AND MANAMI, BUT... THAT'S STRICTLY PRIVATE.

H-HIKARU-CHAN!?

PHOTO-GRAPHIC MODEL!?

AB

FOR THAT PHOTO-GRAPHER TO CHOOSE ME... HE MUST HAVE PRETTY GOOD TASTE.

YUP! WHILE IN TOWN, QUITE BY ACCIDENT, I WAS STOPPED.

BUT HIKARU, YOU BETTER BE CAREFUL.

THEN, IN A FLASH, I'LL BECOME A STAR...

AHHH! WHAT'LL I DO? WHAT IF THESE PHOTOS ATTRACT THE ATTENTION OF THE MASS MEDIA AND SHOW-BIZ FOLKS...

大型新人 デビュー!!
檀山 ひかる 記者会見

ドリ

SFX: <RAPTURE>

COME TO THINK OF IT, I RECALL THE GUY HAD A SORTA PERVERTED, MUSTACHED FACE...

WELL...

THERE ARE CASES OF GIRLS BEING DECEIVED AND TAKEN OFF TO SOME STRANGE PLACE... THAT KIND OF THING CAN BE PRETTY SCARY.

WAS THAT PERSON REALLY A PHOTOGRAPHER?

PEEK

EH!?

THEN, SEMPAI! PLEASE COME WITH ME NEXT SUNDAY TO THE PHOTO SHOOT!!

YOU'LL FEEL SAFE WITH ME, RIGHT?

YES!

HUH!? YOU, MADOKA-SAN?

THEN, SHALL I GO WITH YOU, HIKARU!?

OH! B-BUT I'M HELPING MY FATHER WITH HIS WORK ON SUNDAY.

HOW BO-O-ORING.

HI. SORRY TO KEEP YOU WAITING!

SEMPAI, WHY...

KASUGA-KUN!?

WHY ARE YOU HERE?

HIKARU-CHAN... AND AYUKAWA ...

"DAD"!?

NOBODY SAID ANYTHING LIKE THAT.

DAD... WORK MEANS TAKING LANDSCAPE PICTURES...

WHAT!?

HUH ...?

YEAH. WE GO TO THE SAME SCHOOL.

YOU AND THESE GIRLS KNOW EACH OTHER BY SIGHT?

WHAT'S THIS, KYOU-SUKE?

KASUGA-KUN'S FATHER!?

THEN, THE PHOTO-GRAPHER IS...

SO, THAT "MODEL" YOU WERE TALKING ABOUT WAS HKARU-CHAN!?

HOW AWFUL...! IT WAS SEMPAI'S DAD?

AH!

WATCH WHERE YOU'RE GOING, YOU BLOCK-HEAD!

OH NO!

AH, TH-THANK YOU.

OH, SHALL I CARRY YOUR BAG FOR YOU, FATHER?

F-FATHER...

EH!?

WELL, SHALL WE GO, FATHER!!?

パ

ミヤ

SFX: <CLICK!>

パ

ミヤ

SFX: <CLICK!>

WHA!?

SHE'S PRETTY CONSIDERATE, AND QUITE NICE, ISN'T SHE!?

TO THINK THAT GIRL'S YOUR GIRL-FRIEND...!

EH?

BUT... YOU'RE SO SLY.

TH-THAT'S NOT IT! HIKARU-CHAN ISN'T REALLY...

PEEK

SEE YA.

EH?

IT LOOKS LIKE IT'LL BE OKAY IF I SKIP OUT ON THE REST ...

THEN... I GUESS I'LL GO HOME NOW.

AYUKAWA ...

KYOUSUKE!

DAD...

MODELING !?

I WANTED TO ASK THAT GIRL, TOO... YOU THINK SHE'LL DO IT?

Y-YEAH!

HEY! IF YOU DON'T GET GOING SOON SHE'LL REALLY BE GOING HOME!!

THANKS, DAD!!

AYUKAWA!

WAIT!

HUH? BUT IT JUST CHANGED.

JUST IN TIME!

HUFF

HUFF

CLICK

ピタッ

NNNNGH!!

SFX: <STOP SHORT!>

HEY, KASUGA-KUN. IF YOU DON'T HURRY BACK YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO HELP YOUR FATHER.

WHAT? ME? MODEL?

I'M NOT THE TYPE.

THEN I'M LEAVING TOO!!

IF THAT ISN'T OBVIOUS THEN THERE'S NO POINT IN STAYING HERE!!

IF YOU MODEL FOR HIM I'M SURE HE'LL TURN OUT GOOD PICTURES!!

ANYHOW, I WANT YOU TO BE THE MODEL!!

BUT HIKARU IS THE MODEL ...

HIKARU-CHAN HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH THIS!

YANK

KASUGA-KUN.

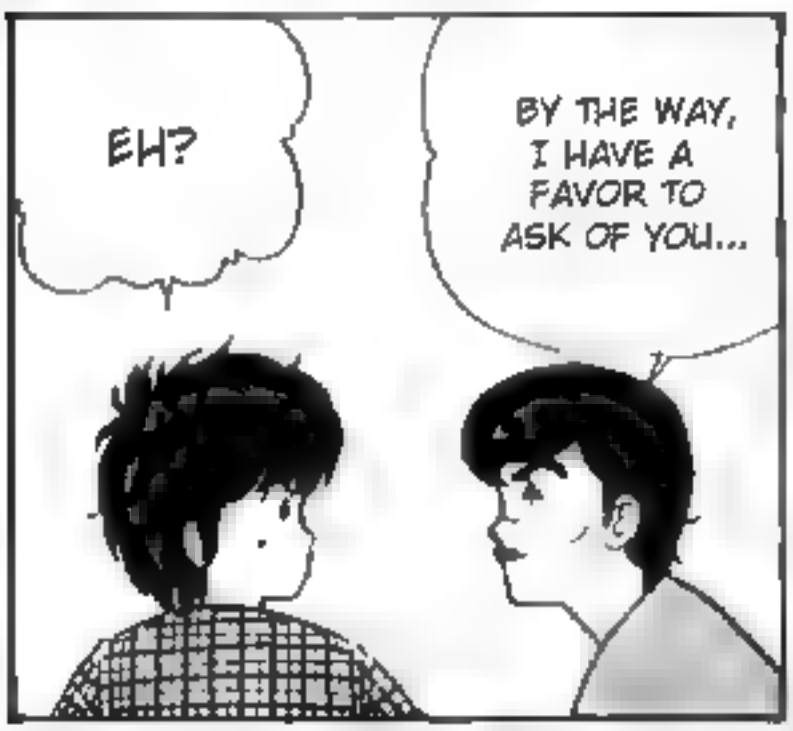
YOU'RE JUST LIKE A SPOILED KID,

AYUKAWA ...!!

GRR... REALLY!

SFX: <CLICK!>

SO WHAT DO YOU THINK OF MY FIRST-EVER MODEL PHOTOS?
WOW!
1984 SF


EH?
BY THE WAY, I HAVE A FAVOR TO ASK OF YOU...

HER FACIAL EXPRESSION CHANGES FREQUENTLY ...LIKE A CAT'S EYE.
SHE HAS A MYSTERIOUS CHARM ABOUT HER.
1984

N-NUDE ...!

WHAAT !!?
NEXT TIME, I'D LIKE TO TAKE NUDE PHOTOS OF HER!
1984 SF CONVENTI

FORGET IT!!

THERE'S NO WAY?

NO WAY!!

Y-YOU'RE JOKING!!?

YEAH! COULD I HAVE YOU ASK HER FOR ME?

1984 SF CONVENTION

I THOUGHT FOR SURE YOU'D SAY THAT.

I'M A LITTLE SORRY TO HEAR THAT... WELL, OKAY. I'M JOKING.

I SEE.

SMILE

SOMEHOW, LOOKING AT THE TWO OF YOU BRINGS TO MIND YOUR MOTHER AND ME WHEN WE WERE YOUNG.

OH. THAT SNAPSHOT IS A FREE ONE. IT'S NOT FOR THE JOB.

I-I DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT THIS ONE ...

HUH?

LIKE DAD AND MOM WHEN THEY WERE YOUNG...

BUT YOU PROBABLY DON'T RE-MEMBER HER TOO WELL.*

HMM. MOM, HUH?

MAYBE... I WONDER IF I'M TIED TO AYUKAWA BY A RED STRING?

* NOTE: KYOUSUKE WOULD HAVE BEEN LESS THAN 2 YEARS OLD WHEN SHE DIED WHILE GIVING BIRTH TO THE TWINS.

WHAT!?

THIS PHOTO ALSO SEEMS TO BRING BACK MEMORIES OF YOUR MOTHER AND ME WHEN WE WERE YOUNG.

HERE'S ANOTHER ONE...

OH, THAT'S RIGHT. KYOUSUKE.

SOMEHOW, WITH HIKARU-CHAN TOO... I'M CONFUSED ...!

EHHHHH!!?

OH NO... HOW IN-DECENT

WOW BIG BROTHER IS SURPRISINGLY POPULAR WITH GIRLS, HMM?

LIFE IS GOOD, HUH, KYOUSUKE!? YOU'RE DOUBLY BLESSED.

BUT... WHICH ONE DID MOM REALLY RE-SEMBLE?

WHAT THE HECK SORT OF MOTHER WAS SHE!!?

End of Chapter 014

JEALOUSY

RAIN

PUB
RESTAURANT
あばかぶ

SEE YA.

ジェラシー・レイン!の巻

TITLE: JEALOUSY RAIN

SOMEHOW... I FELT SOMEONE STARING DAGGERS AT MY BACK...

H-HEY, HIKARU-CHAN.

AS USUAL, I LEFT ABCB WITH HIKARU-CHAN WHEN...

OKAY, TIME TO GO HOME, DARLING!

SFX. <CLINGG!>

THERE WAS A GUY WATCHING ME!

WHEN I TURNED MY HEAD TO LOOK...

Edited by ZlleH, from #mangascans on Dalnet

OOPS!

THAT GUY...

WHAT'S WRONG, SEMPAI...?

SFX: <ZIP!>

HUH?

SOMEONE WAS WATCHING ME.

.....

KASUGA KYOUSUKE, EH?

HE'S...

HUH? THAT'S WEIRD ...

BUT THERE'S NO ONE HERE!

WHY ARE YOU STAND-ING AROUND WITH A BLANK LOOK ON YOUR FACE?

I'M NOT STANDING AROUND BECAUSE I WANT TO...

AREN'T YOU GOING HOME?

IT'S LIKE THAT.

BUT IT'S SOMETHING LIKE THAT, HMM?

I DIDN'T THINK IT POSSIBLE TO BE SO LAME AS TO FORGET TO BRING AN UMBRELLA DURING THE RAINY SEASON...

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WHY DON'T WE SHARE MINE?

IF YOU WANT,

SURE IT'S OKAY!?

EH!?

SFX: <FWIP!>

ONE CUP OF COFFEE ISN'T GOING TO BE ENOUGH.

PLEASE DO. BUT USING MY UMBRELLA WILL COST YOU.

ZIP

SEM-PAAAI!

THANK YOU!

ぴっしょり

WHAT'S THE MATTER, SEMPAI? DO YOU LIKE THE RAIN?

HUH? MADOKA-SAN, ARE YOU ALSO GOING HOME NOW?

SFX: <SOAKING WET>

THAT'S A TASTE I CAN'T REALLY ADMIRE.

TH-THAT'S IT. HA HA HA. I HAVE STRANGE TASTES.

STARE

IT'S HIM AGA.N!

HUH? THAT GUY'S LOOKING AT...

...AYUKAWA!?

TH-THANKS ...

SEMPAI, PLEASE GIVE UP YOUR STRANGE TASTES AND USE THIS UMBRELLA!

I STILL HAVE A LITTLE SCHOOL BUS-INESS TO TAKE CARE OF.

WHAT? WHAT ARE YOU LOOK-ING AT?

THAT GUY ...STILL LOOKING THIS WAY.

AH!

TH-THAT BOY.

IT'S YUU-KUN.

HE'S HINO YUUSAKU, A NEIGHBOR-HOOD BOY, WHO I'M SURE SHOULD BE IN FIRST-YEAR NOW.*

WHO IS HE?

HMMPH.

* NOTE: "FIRST-YEAR" REFERS TO THE FIRST YEAR IN JUNIOR HIGH. THE EQUIVALENT OF 7TH GRADE IN THE U.S.

HMM.

WHEN WE WERE LITTLE, THE THREE OF US, INCLUDING HIKARU, OFTEN PLAYED TOGETHER...

WELL, I GUESS IT'S LIKE THAT.

SO, A CHILDHOOD FRIEND?

BATHED!?

B-

NOW I REMEMBER. WE OFTEN BATHED TOGETHER, TOO.

I HAD A GOOD RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM... JUST LIKE BROTHER AND SISTER.

EH!?

WHAT KINDA FACE ARE YOU MAKING!?

LIKE BROTHER AND SISTER, HUH...

OH, TH-THAT'S RIGHT. HA HA HA.

WE WERE LITTLE, OF COURSE!

THAT'S NOT THE SORT OF LOOK A KID BROTHER GIVES TO A B.G SISTER!

BUT HE WAS CERTAINLY LOOKING AT AYUKAWA!

HE KNOWS A SIDE OF AYUKAWA THAT I DON'T KNOW!

BESIDES THE FACT THEY WERE CHILDHOOD FRIENDS, HOW LONG HAS IT BEEN SINCE THEY WERE TOGETHER...?

MAYBE AYUKAWA'S THE ONE HE...

THAT BASTARD !!

NO, NOT JUST ONE SIDE, BUT ALL SIDES!!

EH?

HEY, YOU.

3-A

YOU'RE IN THE SAME CLASS AS AYUKAWA-SEMPAI, RIGHT?

AH, THIS GUY...

...ALL RIGHT...

HEY, TELL HER HINO WANTS TO SPEAK TO HER.

WHAT'S THIS? FOR AN UNDERCLASSMAN, THIS GUY SURE TALKS COCKY...

EH!? AH, I THINK SHE'S HERE ...

IS AYUKAWA-SEMPAI HERE?

SFX: <IRRITATION!>

SFX: <EVIL EYE>

YES! IT'S BEEN A LONG WHILE, MADOKA-SAN!

YOU LOOK AS GOOD AS EVER.

HUH? YUU-KUN.

SOMETHING HE WANTS TO ASK .?

THUMP

UM, THERE'S SOMETHING I WANT TO ASK YOU, MADOKA-SAN.

PEEK

IT'S UNUSUAL. YOU ASKING TO SEE ME.

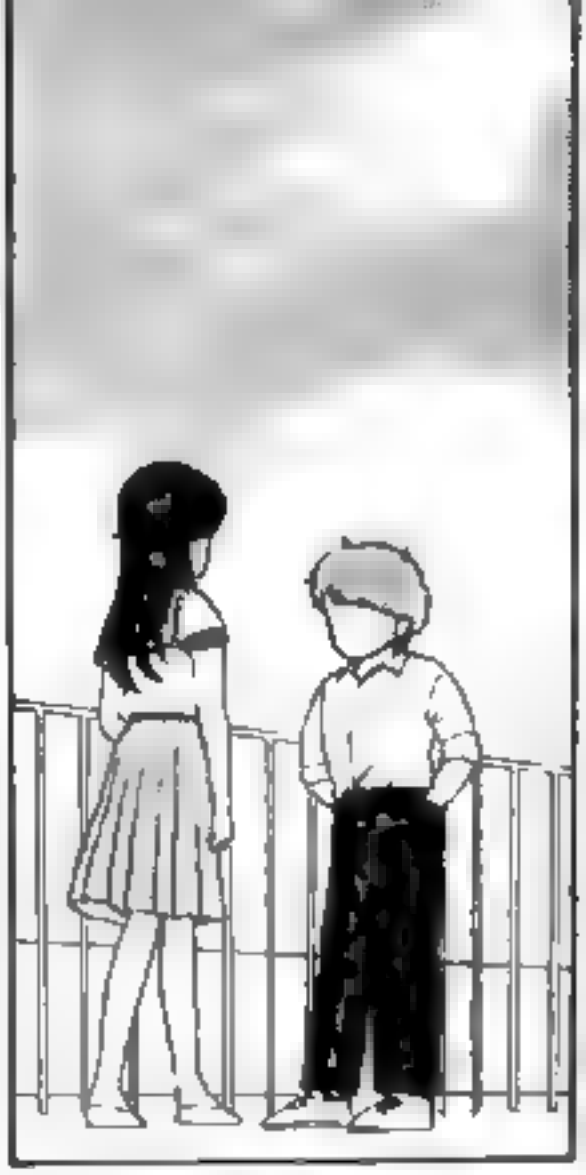
S-SURE ENOUGH, AYUKAWA'S THE ONE HE...

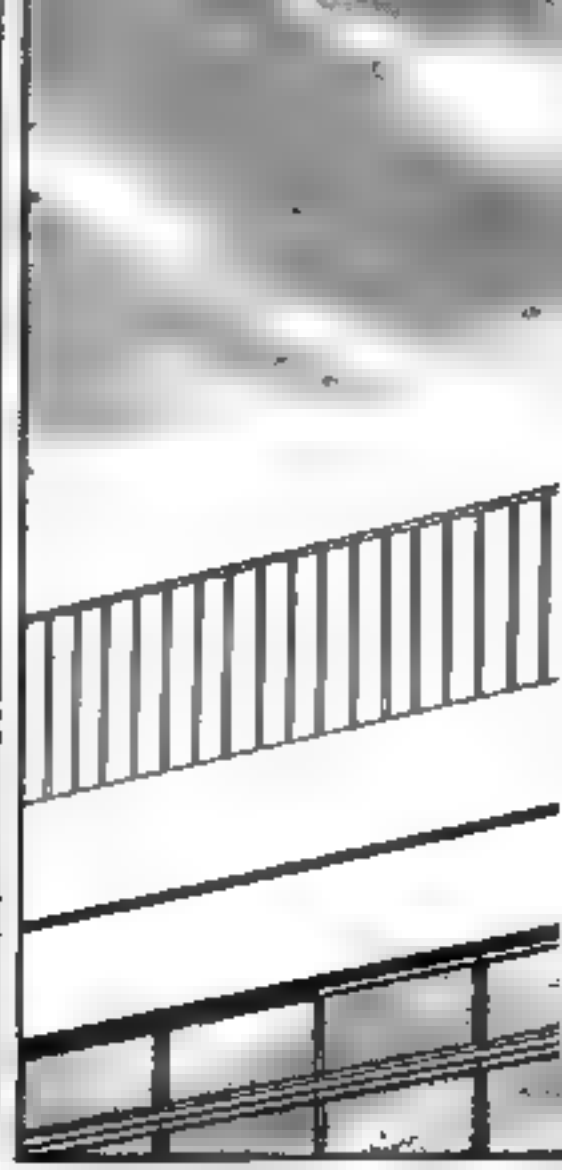
...OKAY.

UHH, PLEASE COME WITH ME OVER THERE.

?

SFX: <EVIL EYE>





CERTAINLY, BEING AN OLD CHILD-HOOD FRIEND HELPS... BECAUSE HE'S KNOWN THE AYUKAWA FROM LONG AGO, TOO.

SHIT... WHAT THE HECK ARE THEY TALKING ABOUT? EVEN AYUKAWA SEEMS HAPPY DAMMIT.

WH-WHAT? WHAT DID HE SAY JUST NOW?

SWISH

OH NO! HE'S COMING THIS WAY.

ROLL

ALLLL RIGHT. WHAT SAY I GIVE HIM A SCARE!?

TAP

TAP

ガラガラ

SFX: <RATTLE RATTLE>

SFX: WAHHH!

WHAT'S SO FUNNY?

HA HA HA HA.

OW-OW-OW.

WHY DO YOU THINK THAT IS?

I'M NOT ONE WHO LIKES EXCESSIVE VIOLENCE.

SO ARE YOU!

YOU'RE AN EYESORE!

SFX: <BANG>

I'M NOT ONE WHO DOES KARATE HALF-HEARTEDLY!

IN THIS WAY I CAN USUALLY DO GREAT DAMAGE TO MY OPPONENTS.

SFX: <SHIVER!>

IF POSSIBLE, PLEASE DON'T MAKE ME USE THIS RIGHT HAND OF MINE.

SFX: <FLINCH!>

OOPS, SLIPPED! DID IT AGAIN.

I *WILL* TAKE HER...

...BACK FROM YOU!!

SEE YA.

THUMP

OH YEAH, I FORGOT TO SAY...

TH-THAT GUY...

WHAT KINDA FACE ARE YOU MAKING!?

AYUKAWA ...

WAH!!

PAT

HI!

EH!!

HE TOLD ME HE'S IN LOVE, AFTER ALL.

"WH-WHAT AM I GONNA DO,"

WHAT ARE YOU GONNA DO, KASUGA-KUN?

AYUKAWA...

H-HE LIKES...

HIKARU.

HE REALLY SEEMS TO LIKE ...

FROM THE WAY IT LOOKS, IT'S PRETTY SERIOUS.

HIKARU-CHAN!?

EH!!

HE'S LIKED HIKARU FOR A LONG TIME.

HE SAYS...

IT ISN'T YOU...?

TH-THEN.

I'M NOT QUITE SURE WHAT'S GOING ON, EITHER.

JUST NOW, HE CAME TO ASK ME ABOUT YOUR RELATIONSHIP TO HIKARU...

OHHHHH! I'M GLAD!

HUH!?

AH!

BECAUSE I WAS CONVINCED THAT YOU WERE THE ONE HE...

WHAT'S TO BE GLAD ABOUT?

WELL... IN ANY CASE, I'M GLAD...

SOMEHOW, I WAS GREATLY RELIEVED THAT AYUKAWA WASN'T THE OBJECT OF HIS AFFECTIONS!

WHAT?

AH!

BUT... SOMEHOW, THINGS WERE TURNING INTO A TANGLED WEB...!

C'MON, IT'S TIME FOR CLASS.

DOES HIKARU-CHAN KNOW ABOUT THAT GUY'S FEELINGS?

RAIN AGAIN...

あいにく片想い！の巻

Title: The Unfortunate Unrequited Love!

YUU-CHAAAN!!

AHA HA HA

KYA HA HA

HIKARU-CHAAN, MADOKA-SAAN, WAIT!

YUU-CHAAN, HURRY UP!

YUU-CHAN'S LAST!

I'M SECOND.

I'M FIRST.

WAAH!

OH BOY

THAT'S IT

HEYY!

BOO-HOO!

STOP PICKING ON YUU-SAKU!!

CAN'T BEAT HER!

AH! LOOK OUT! IT'S HIKARU!

RUN!

BECAUSE I PLAY WITH YOU SO MUCH. THEY SAID I'LL TURN INTO A GIRL.

BUT THEY WERE MAKING FUN OF ME...

BOYS DON'T CRY, YUUSAKU!

BE BRAVE. THERE'S MUD ON YOUR FACE.

SMILE

BUT I STILL DON'T LIKE THE FACT THAT YOU'RE STRONGER THAN ME, HIKARU-CHAN.

THANKS...

SFX: <KAA!>

YEAH! PROMISE.

REALLY!?

IF YOU GET STRONGER,

I'LL MARRY YOU.

NOW THOSE BULLIES DON'T MAKE FUN OF ME ANYMORE.

AND EVER SINCE THAT DAY, I'VE TRIED MY HARDEST TO BECOME STRONGER!

I'M...

AGH! WHO'S THAT?

HIKARU-CHAN, I'M STRONGER NOW!!

Y-YOU BASTARD! K-KASUGA!!

Y-

...GOING TO BE HIS BRIDE!!

Edited by ZlleH, from #mangascans on Dalnet

Y...

SHIT!

AH!!

HE'S GROWING SENILE AGAIN, HUH?

WHAT THE HELL'S WRONG WITH YOU? HINO...

TEE HEE

THE THINGS THAT I GO THROUGH ARE ALL BECAUSE OF YOU!!

THIS TOO, KASUGA KYOUSUKE ...

HIKARU-CHAN...

DID IT AGAIN!

Ahh!

SFX: <AH-CHOO!>

SOMETHING JUST NOW SENT CHILLS UP MY BACK ..

SFX: <THUMP!>

H-HI!

HEY!

SMILE

SFX: <PO!>

PLEASE LOOK AT THE LUNCH I MADE TODAY!!

SEMPAAAI!

GULP

OH!

WHAT A SHOW-OFF!

THEY'RE AT IT AGAIN... AND IT'S ONLY EARLY AFTER-NOON!

IT HAS 5 STACKS!

SFX: (AHH!)

AH

I-IT'S NOT THAT I'M SHOWING OFF...

IT'S EM-BARRAS-SING.

HA HA

ALTHOUGH THIS HAPPENS ALL THE TIME, IT'S STILL KINDA EMBARRASSING.

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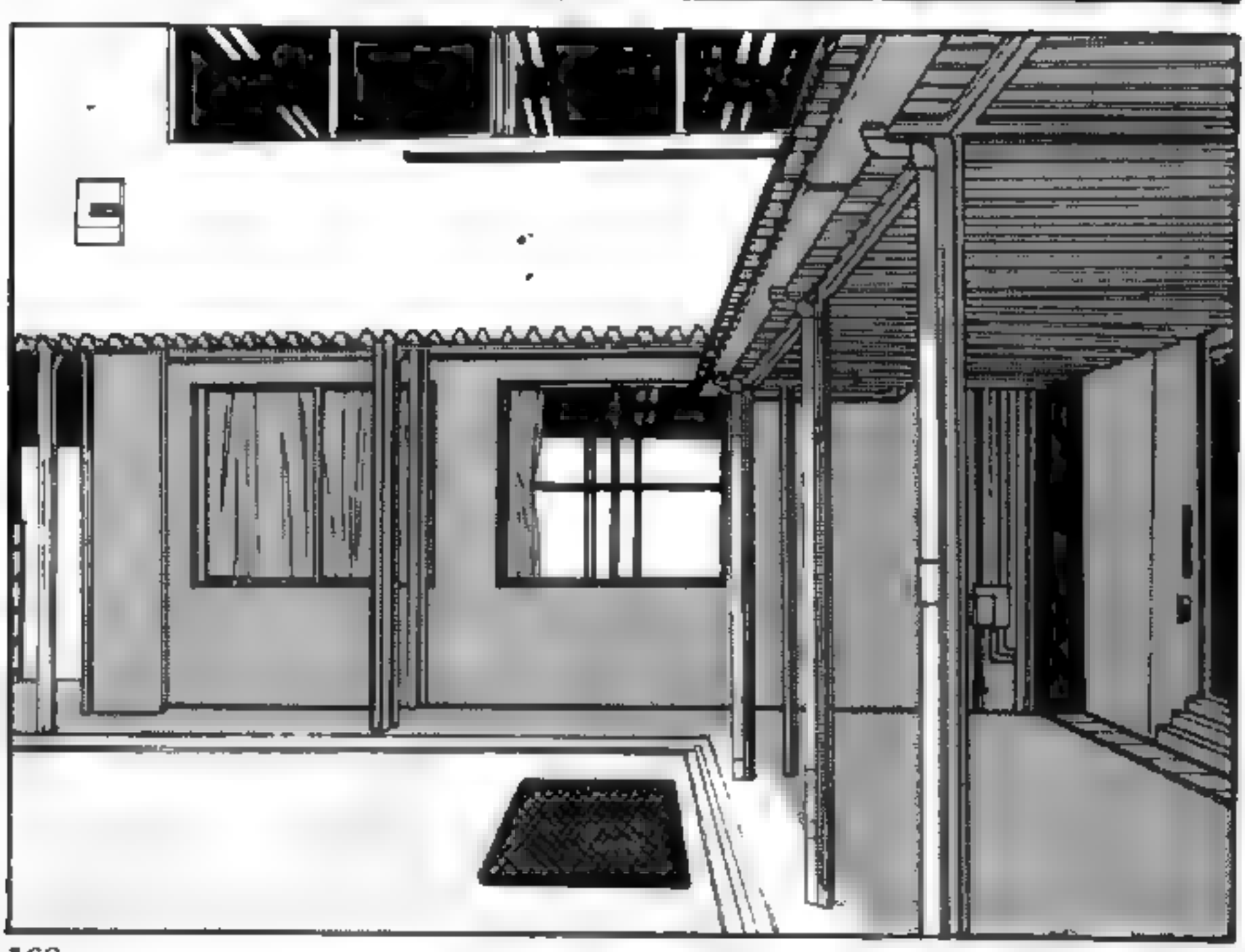
WHAT'S WITH HIM?
OH BOY!

THAT'S THE GUY FROM YESTERDAY ..

SIZZLE



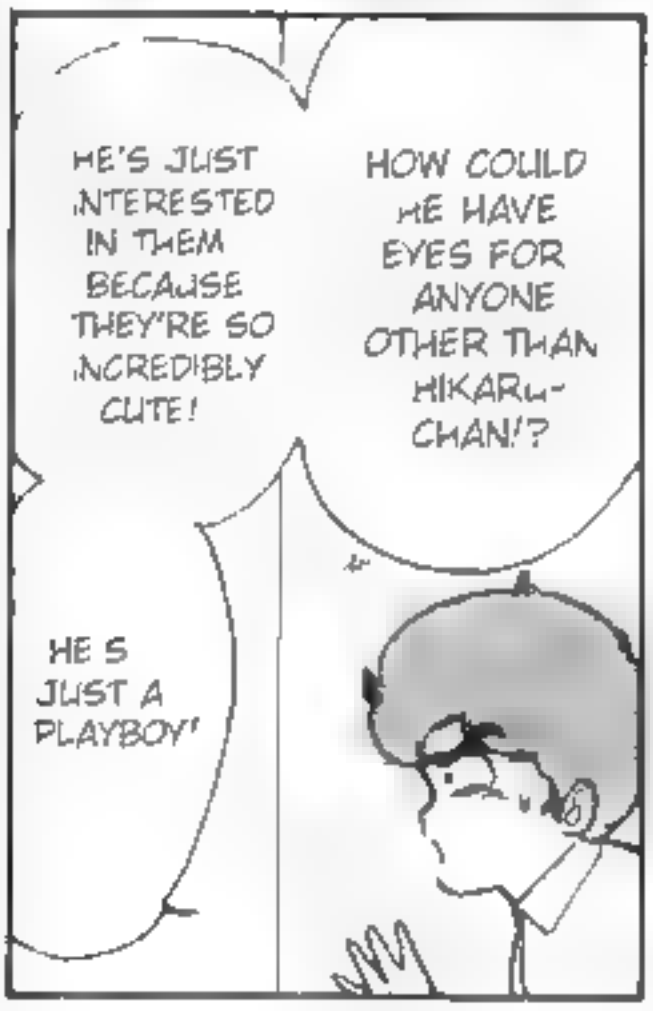
DING-DONG
DING-DONG

JUST WAIT AND SEE! I'M GOING TO EXPOSE H S TRUE CHARACTER.

THERE'S NO WAY HIKARU-CHAN COULD LOVE A GUY LIKE THAT.
SURELY I CAN SPARE A LITTLE TIME!

HUH!

川書店
TEL


HE'S JUST INTERESTED IN THEM BECAUSE THEY'RE SO INCREDIBLY CUTE!
HOW COULD HE HAVE EYES FOR ANYONE OTHER THAN HIKARU-CHAN!?
HE S JUST A PLAYBOY!

OH! AREN'T THOSE THE CUTE TWINS FROM CLASS C!?
SO, AT LAST HE SHOWS HIS TRUE COLORS.

FLUTTER

PEEK

TO READ A DIRTY MAGAZINE LIKE THAT.

GEEZ, HE MUST BE REALLY PERVERTED . .

I'D BETTER BUY IT...

THAT WILL BE 180 YEN.

BUT... THIS IS AMAZING!!

AHHH

GOODNESS, THAT LITTLE BOY . WHAT'S HE READING!?

OH!!

FLIP

WHO WAS THAT BOY WHO CAME SOME TIME AGO?

B·C·B

OH, THAT'S YUU-KUN.

AREN'T YOU JUST GETTING WHAT YOU DESERVE?

TODAY, I WAS STARTLED BY THAT GUY WHEN HE GLARED AT ME.

IT'S BECAUSE BOYS LIKE HIKARU, BUT SHE ONLY HAS EYES FOR A SPECIAL SOMEONE.

BUT THAT'S PROBABLY NOT THE ENTIRE REASON.

EH!?

THUMP

EH!?

DECIDE WHETHER YOU REALLY LIKE HIKARU,

OR...

IF YOU'RE REALLY A MAN, THEN ACT LIKE ONE!

BECAUSE HE CARES SO MUCH FOR HIKARU ...

OH! NOT THAT! I FEEL SORRY FOR YUU-KUN,

OR...!?

WHAT IN THE WORLD WAS SHE GOING TO SAY AFTER THAT?

EH!?

IS IT ONLY FOR YUU-KUN'S SAKE THAT I HAVE TO DECIDE?

AYUKAWA...

JOKE, JOKE. YOU'RE GETTING PRETTY GOOD AT MAKING COFFEE, AREN'T YOU?

OH! WHAT OTHER REASON IS THERE?

OH, RATS! JUST ANOTHER MOMENT LONGER!

BUT FLATTERY WILL GET YOU NOWHERE!

THANKS.

OH?

ALL RIGHT,

JUST WAIT AND SEE!!

JUST AS I THOUGHT. HIKARU-CHAN S BEING DECE VED BY THAT PLAYBOY.

W-WHAT!? THAT GUY'S SO FRIENDLY WITH MADOKA-SAN, TOO!

AHH

I THOUGHT MADOKA-SAN WAS MEANER THAN THAT...

ARG

BUT..

WHEN MADOKA-SAN WAS A CHILD, SHE NEVER SMILED CHEERFULLY LIKE THAT!

I'VE NEVER SEEN HER WITH SUCH A NICE EXPRESSION BEFORE.

...AT A PLACE LIKE THIS?

WHAT DO YOU WANT...

EH?

I SAW IT.

OH!

WHEN YOU AND MADOKA-SAN WERE ENJOYING YOURSELVES AT ABCB.

I'M TALKING ABOUT YESTERDAY.

WHY DID IT HAVE TO BE THIS GUY!

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, NOT TRUE!?

T-THAT'S NOT TRUE!

YOU WERE CHEATING ON HIKARU, WEREN'T YOU!?

H-HE'S BEYOND MY STRENGTH TO DEFEAT WITHOUT USING THE POWER.

BLINK

GULP

I CAN'T HANDLE THIS ANYMORE...

NO MORE MERCY.

CR-R-RACK

SFX: <ARRGGG!>

KYA!

SFX: <FLAP>

H-HEY! LOOK AT THAT!

HUH!?

I DON'T KNOW WHO YOU ARE, POOR GIRL! BUT I'M SORRY... I NEED A LITTLE HELP!

.....

WHAT ARE YOU DOING, SEMPAI!?

!?

NOW'S MY CHANCE TO...

SLINK SLINK

OH, WOW!!

AH!

OH! YOU.

SFX: <THUMP!>

HUH?

HE'S GOING TO BLAB ABOUT YESTERDAY AT ABCB!

IT'S YUU-SAKU!

D-DAMN, I'M DONE FOR...

HE HE HE

G'BYE!

THUD!

AH... UM...

FIDGET FIDGET

WHAT THE HELL!?

WHA!

SINCE YOU WERE LITTLE ...!?

YUUSAKU HAS BEEN LIKE THAT SINCE WE WERE LITTLE!

W-WHAT IN THE WORLD? THAT GUY...

I BECOME SPEECHLESS... I'M SO SHY!

I-IT'S HOPELESS. I GET SO NERVOUS IN FRONT OF HIKARU-CHAN.

SFX: <KAAAAA>

THAT WAS NOT THE LEAST BIT SURPRISING TO ME!

DON'T WORRY. I WOULD NEVER CHEAT ON YOU!!

SMILE

AT LEAST HE DIDN'T REVEAL ANYTHING FOR NOW.

YEAH...!?

DARLING... ARE YOU JEALOUS PERHAPS?

2 ジェラシー・レイン！の巻(完)

End of Volume 02 Chapter 016